

AUTOBIOGRAPHY

OF

ALBERT REYNOLDS TAYLOR

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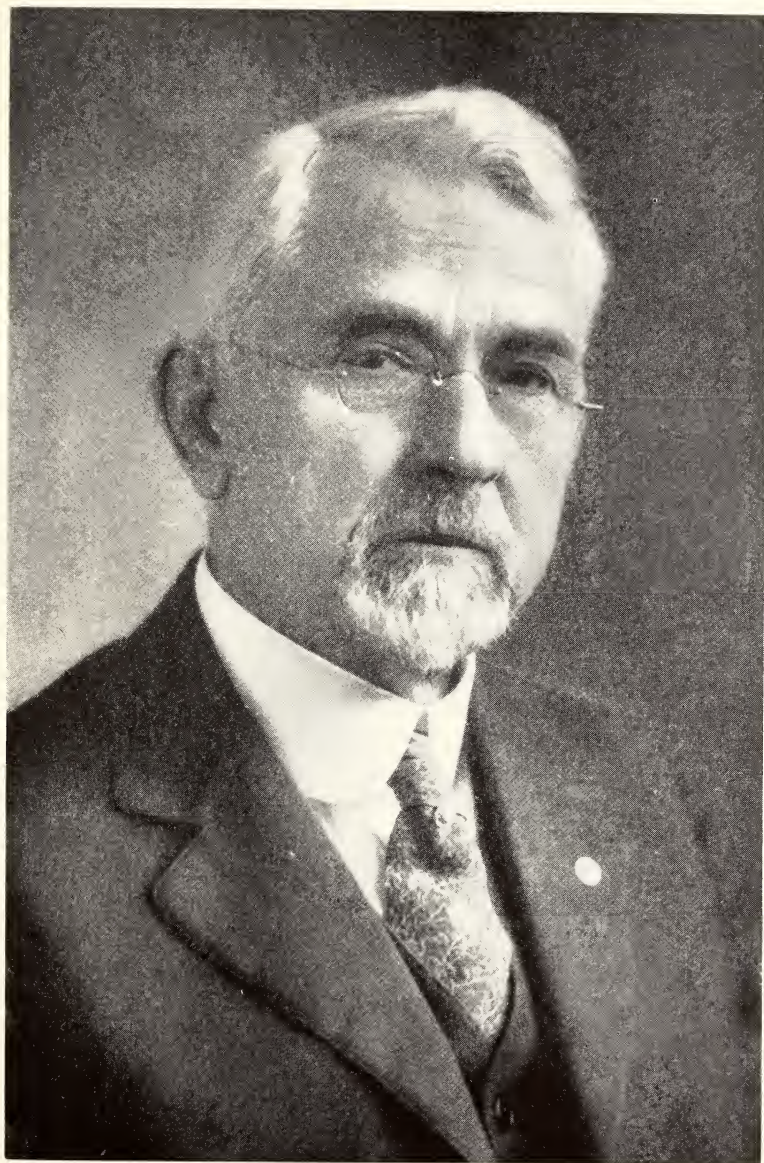
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*Dedicated to My Devoted Family
and to My Associates in
Three Colleges*



ALBERT REYNOLDS TAYLOR, 1924



TAYLOR COAT OF ARMS

"Whatever he goes after he will fetch"



Preface

I admit at the outset that this autobiography is written in a sympathetic spirit, not a very unusual thing however, and that my principal excuse for writing it is that I know of no one who could do it so well as myself, and that it would not be an autobiography if any one else should do it for me. As there has been little startling, sensational, tragical or humorous in my life and little that I would care to conceal, I shall not find it very difficult to give a faithful account of it.

The chief reason for doing it at all is that I have been assured that it would be gratifying to my friends and that its perusal might prove instructive and encouraging to many young people with limitations similar to mine in whom there also may be aspirations for better things and a larger sphere of service in their advancing years. Biographies and autobiographies there are a plenty and quickening, propellant ones too, so I am not vain enough to think that this attempt will find such extensive circulation that it will contribute very largely to the educative and inspirative momentum of such literature, and I shall not be disappointed if it gets little recognition outside the circle of choice friends with whom it has been a joy to live and labor for better things.

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Part I

Early Life and Education

I came into the world in the very center of the loveliest of Octobers in the year 1846 and immediately found a whole township of good Quaker folk and their gentle cousins much interested in my arrival. The log house in which I set up my court stood in the midst of a young apple orchard a few rods distance from my grandparents' commodious brick mansion and scarcely farther away from the edge of a beautiful forest which lay between us and the little village of Magnolia, Illinois, a quarter of a mile away. The house had been built for the purpose of temporarily accommodating each newly married member of the family until a new domicile could be erected in the open prairie beyond and the household penates properly installed therein.

Tho my memory fails me utterly with reference to the events of the first few years of my life in that dear little home. I have had the log house described to me so often and the mode of living in it so graphically told me in later years by my mother, that many details are as vivid as tho memory were reproducing them directly from my own experience rather than from her lips. Log houses with one room scantily furnished are still so common in the back woods of all parts of our country that they need little description to enlighten the reader or adorn a tale. Their architecture is so nearly alike that a photograph of one would easily pass for any one of tens of thousands of them, even tho a coon skin or two might be stretched over the logs and an oxbow lean up at the corner. And yet when "human beins" have lived in one of them for a short time and loved and served and suffered and won out or lost in it, it becomes to them so utterly unlike every other log house, that half a century afterwards its architectural loveliness and domestic conveniences differentiate it and glorify it above all others of its kith and kin; just so that little cabin among the apple trees was the never failing theme which brought a sweet smile to my mother's face and started for

the fortieth time perhaps, some dear little story of our busy, happy life there,—a life that was unlike the life of any others of the billion and a half human beings that lived in cabin or castle and so transformed and transfigured it that it will ever remain a living, breathing thing, part and parcel of ourselves, and tho the logs have long since crumbled to humus, as immortal as our spirits.

Given a fragment of a bone, and Cuvier could reconstruct an animal which he had never seen and also describe its habitat and life with wonderful accuracy. Likewise, given a splint of a log and many of us might construct the house from which it came, but its other part, the life, the personality which made it somebody's nesting place, somebody's haven of refuge, somebody's home, can only be reconstructed by that somebody himself and only from the priceless material which thru the long years has been nursing his heart and quickening his life with ever increasing vitality, ever increasing affection. But even he, tho he be a poet born or a painter bred cannot so construct it for us that it will seem more than a mere outline,—a suggestion for us to fill out and touch up for ourselves.

My parents came from near Brownsville, Pennsylvania, my mother, Mary Ann Mills, having migrated with her father's family to Magnolia in 1840, and my father, John Taylor, with his father's family to the Griffith neighborhood a few miles north in 1842. My mother's parents were members of the Society of Friends, her father being a preacher and one of the founders of the Clear Creek Meeting, which is still a large and influential organization in that locality. My father early affiliated with the Cumberland Presbyterian Church of Clear Creek and continued a consecrated and active leader and elder in it and afterward at Wenona during the rest of his life. He was an excellent musician for those days, and besides being a popular director of country singing schools for several winters was a valued leader of the singing in the church services wherever he attended. He had been an officer in a cavalry company in the Pennsylvania militia before coming west and his skill as a drill master was invaluable in the executive work of many organizations to which he belonged.

A tradition comes down to us that John Taylor's great strength in swinging the cradle in the harvest field, together with his genial humor and melodious songs first aroused the Quaker maiden's admiration which was not long in developing into love as she discovered the sterling worth of the man and the rare character of his personality. So fine a spirit as she appealed so strongly to his responsive nature that the announcement of their banns was long anticipated by their

friends. Tho the marriage would automatically excommunicate her from the Friends' Church she did not hesitate a moment and in due time united with that of her husband. The change however, did not affect her interest in the old church, for it abided thru life and in the alternate absence of service in the other church our entire family were always in attendance at the Friends' Church on the First day of the week. She used the plain language in talking to us and her letters to the end were in it also, much to our gratification and delight.

Her father Joseph Mills, came to look over that section in 1839 and was so pleased with it that he persuaded his son Eli and wife to come out that fall overland. The others came in the Mills-Price steamboat the next spring.

It has always been a matter of unalloyed joy to me that tho the Friends in those days excluded outsiders from the privilege of their cemeteries, space was set apart in the Mills' family lot for a resting place for my father and mother alongside her brothers and sisters, where they now lie under the same bed of myrtle that covers them all with its eternal green. That joy was heightened to tears when the Old Meeting House was thrown open for a brief service as we carried my mother's poor body back to the old graveyard for burial, the assurance being given that "We are not as we used to be; God's children are all one to us now." We had long known that tho it had not been spoken so authoritatively before.

Until I was fourteen years of age my life was spent in that Quaker community and to that fact I owe much of the equability of temperament, the reverence for truth, the love of peace, the fidelity to higher ideals and the anchorage of an abiding faith that have been my safe-guards in opening manhood and in maturer life. With a heritage of good blood, a consecrated Christian home and an ideal environment how base an ingrate I would have been had the result been otherwise.

I have always been grateful that I was permitted to spend my early childhood days in the shadow of the woods before mentioned. A hundred rods down the road a clear little stream crossed it and disappeared in crooked curves down the beautiful valley to the southwest. At times it became a roaring torrent and gave us occasional thrills of danger, varied at other times with long days of quiet strolling and happy playing along its sloping green banks. Like the Boy of Winander I often went as far as I dared alone and lay or sat for hours in the "deep, deep" woods, losing myself in them, listening to the strange noises of the multifarious life that peopled them everywhere and striving to get into touch and tune with it.

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As evening came on I often lingered late, fascinated by the still stranger voices that then filled the woods with their weird cries and low murmurs, interrupted now and then by sharp challenges and harsh growls that often almost paralyzed me by their nearness or their intensity,—all accompanied by the subtle sighing of the low winds or the deep moaning of the great trees swaying back and forth up and down the valley. Long years afterwards, as I would return there for a visit, I would slip out at twilight and listen to the same sounds as my old friends emerged from their hiding and crept or stalked forth thru the lonely woods, thus repeating again and again the experiences of my boyhood vigils; thus gratifying the call of the wild which had enticed me into the shades and given me my first acquaintance with its mysterious life. To these experiences I attribute much of my later love of the natural sciences, especially for the life of the woods and fields and streams and lakes.

For some time my parents lived in a small log cottage at the Griffith Mill on Clear Creek down the road into the woods about two and a half miles from the Friends' church. It was a lonely place and my father would often return so late at night from his work out in the prairie that he would sing some familiar song or hymn as he came along so as to let my mother know that he was not far away. When I was about four and brother Joseph two years of age, we moved out into the prairie home, long now owned by Mary Griffith. There sister Isabel was born and we two boys had the chicken-pox to a finish. Our favorite amusement in the Summer was catching ground squirrels with cotton string slip-knots as they peeped out of their holes. While living there my mother and I drove over to Uncle Pusey Mills' one afternoon where my father was engaged in threshing grain. At the call for supper I saw the men stick their pitchforks in the ground, and as I had one in my hands attempted to do the same but jabbed a tine thru the middle of my foot pinning it to the ground. It gave me considerable trouble for a few days, but I suppose the lesson was worth it.

In 1854 my father was able to buy a good farm southeast of that on which we were living and at once proceeded to erect a comfortable home and plant a good orchard on it. Afterward he purchased a fine eighty acre tract near the "Prospect" house three miles a little north of east, and still later another tract diagonally across the road southeast of us. The former was very rich land and yielded abundant crops of wheat for several years; the latter was low and flat however, and being poorly drained was not so profitable an investment. Later

the Friends erected their meeting house across the road from it. The other children were all born in this house, and we were blessed with good health, save a serious attack of typhoid fever on brother Joe that caused us all much anxiety.

As my father owned reaping machines and threshers and cornshellers alone or in partnership with Uncle Pusey Mills, he supplemented his income very materially by serving the neighbors for many miles around. At eleven years of age I began to accompany him and soon became very useful as a factotum and afterwards as a driver of the power horses. The experiences of those years, sleeping in all kinds of homes, eating all kinds of meals and meeting all kinds of people, with increasing responsibility thrown upon me, were worth much in opening my eyes and in adapting myself to new situations. My father was constantly inventing and testing new improvements on the machines mentioned in which I always took deep interest. Among them were a cob-carrier for cornshellers, a two wheeled corn cultivator, the self-raking reaper being the climax of his efforts and prompted him to sell the farms and move to Wenona for its manufacture.

As brother Joe and I came on, we were assigned our farm chores and very early were driving teams for coal and wood and carrying grain to market, weeding and hoeing the garden and the corn fields, following the plow, driving the harrow, shucking the corn, raking and pitching the hay, binding and shocking the small grain like little Trojans, loading and stacking both as we grew stronger and more capable. In my fourteenth year I was making a full hand binding wheat and keeping up my section for each return of the reaper that dropped the grain behind, which had to be bound and out of the way for the team to pass again with the machine. My father and Uncle Pusey usually alternated in driving the four horse teams drawing it and in raking off the grain in proper sized bundles as it dropped on the platform. They were great drivers, and as the machines had no reels at first they kept the horses in a little trot most of the time, necessitating speedy work on our part and frequent relays of horses. We could hardly be blamed for being glad when a hot box or a little accident occurred, allowing time for throwing ourselves down for a rest and often even for a "cat-nap" on a pile of sheaves. I might remark that those same men put us thru in the same manner from sun-rise to sunset, with an hour off at noon, when running threshers and cornshellers.

These harvesting and threshing events required the presence of at least fifteen to twenty-five men and boys to insure the most economic results, and it was the custom for eight or

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ten farmers to unite in cutting and threshing each others' grain in rotation as it matured. This brought us together in good fellowship for perhaps six or eight weeks, which was always heightened by the union around the big tables spread for dinner and supper by our hostesses, assisted by their more intimate women friends from the neighboring homes. Such occasions were anticipated in putting up fruit, grinding sausages, salting meats, smoking hams in the preceding fall and winter, and in setting an extra number of hens in the early spring and usually kept the housewives busy for weeks before in devising and preparing "victuals" for the hungry crowds that would demand them. As no stove was large enough to cook the vast quantities of food needed, nearly all the farmers had capacious outside ovens which were constantly in requisition while the gang was to be fed. Food cooked any other way has never tasted so good to me.

It would take pages to describe the loads of tempting dishes which the ingenuity and resources of those women would provide for us. No wonder that one of our respected leaders would sometimes eat so much that a bad colic would set him a-groaning before the dinner period was over and thus prolong the rest hour materially for us. My father greatly enjoyed those meals and more often paid the penalty than his partner, but for the reason already mentioned there was usually joy when the word was passed around among the men that "Uncle John had eaten too much chicken," in which I fear I also shared at times.

Those harvest men were generally great coffee drinkers tho many of them drank large amounts of milk and water. We were usually supplied also with small or ginger beer, which was greatly relished by the hot and thirsty men at meals and in the fields. Nothing stronger was ever allowed except cider as the apples ripened. As only an occasional farmer put up ice, water was provided in jugs hidden in the shade or in barrels similarly protected, being renewed from the wells as it became warm.

After many trips with my elders with loads of grain and live-stock, to the markets at Hennepin, Hall's Landing, Henry, LaSalle and Peru, I would occasionally be trusted to take a load of grain to market myself, a mark of confidence which made me keenly sensitive of my responsibility and taught me some valuable lessons. Those were the days of wild-cat currency and a man might have his pockets full of good bank notes at night to wake in the morning to find them absolutely worthless. Every business man took a bank-note Reporter which he consulted daily and yet that did not always protect

him. The business situation was deplorable beyond conception and relief came only with the new national financial system evolved by the national government after the opening of the Civil War.

Of course there was considerable silver and gold coin in circulation, but cautious people were hoarding it in such quantities that it further embarrassed every variety of barter and exchange. All kinds of commodities especially the products of the farm sold at such ridiculously low prices as hardly paid for hauling them to market. I have seen a wagon load of corn sell for a silver dollar and a bushel of wheat for a quarter. In the summer of 1860, I was sent to Peru alone with a load of wheat and instructed by my father not to accept any money but gold and silver for it. The buyer to whom he usually sold his grain gave me a ticket specifying the price which the cashier should pay me, but said nothing about the kind of money I was to receive. I was smart enough to know what that meant and asked him to specify coin, which he did with evident hesitation.

Shortly after moving into that new farm home, traveling photographers began to appear to exploit the wonderful camera which had been invented a few years before and at last perfected so as to take most accurate and lifelike portraits with a brief exposure. They proved quite a sensation and almost everybody patronized them. One of them rented a room at Uncle Henry's and was kept very busy for several days making daguerrotypes and ambrotypes. The excellent portraits of my father alone, and of my mother, my brother Joe and myself together, were taken at that time. Now nearly seventy years after, they are surprisingly well preserved as are many of those handed down to the children and grandchildren of thousands of thoughtful parents.

One of the delightful experiences of my early life was the visits to the home of my Grandmother Mills on the margin of the woods already mentioned. Grandfather Mills died August 24, 1847, and Uncle Abel Mills, as the youngest son took charge of farm affairs and made a good home for his mother. In the late fall and winter the capacious attic would always be filled with apples, pears, and nuts, the former filling it with a fragrance that whetted the appetite to an irresistible degree and never failed to draw us back again before long. In the early spring the fine sugar camp across the creek was even more attractive to us and we planned to be present at the sugaring off times with great punctiliousness. How shall I describe a boy's ecstasy as he fills his mouth with a cube of bread soaked in maple syrup, or holds a lump of maple sugar

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on his tongue while it slowly dissolves and trickles down his throat or chews maple wax until every last vestige of it is swallowed over several times? I never yet have seen a boy at a sugar camp who was not always ready for more. I then thought Uncle Abel was rather stingy in doling it out to us: I now know that he was very generous for there would have been little left had he satisfied us greedy children.

My father added to his other labor saving inventions a two-horse double shovel corn cultivator, by which he could cultivate the soil on both sides of a row at once, thus doubling the number of acres one man could cultivate in a day. My Grandfather Samuel Taylor still used a broad single shovel one-horse plow for cultivating his corn even tho the double-shovel had been in use for some time, declaring it impossible to raise and lay away the corn the last time as successfully "with the new fangled machine my son John is using." He handled almost every hill of corn in his field, so that it was hand-raised, which could not well be done with the new invention. It was confessed that he usually had the best corn in the country and would often poke fun at his "more up-to-date neighbors."

We suffered from two serious fires there, one of them burning our combined grain house and shop which stood but a few rods from the corner of our house and a few yards from the ash-hopper standing against a fence which connected the two. Some live coals had been put into the hopper in the morning with the ashes, which had been fanned into a flame by a brisk wind coming up after we had retired. My mother happened to waken about one o'clock next morning and saw the fire and aroused the household. By the time we were out and at it, many neighbors were arriving, but the only thing that could be done was to save the house which was accomplished with much difficulty. I had been pulled out of bed and started off so quickly to arouse our hands at the tenant's house a hundred yards away that on reaching a big ditch I tumbled down into it, waking up fully for the first time.

The second fire burned several stacks of oats which we had just finished in the field and had plowed around in order to protect them. Our neighbor, John Howard, on the south had carelessly fired his stubble with the wind toward our farm and everything being very dry it swept along at a wild rate, jumping thru his fences and over our protecting furrows so quickly that it could not be stopped. I remember that I asked my father whether we would have to suffer the loss. His reply is worth recording: "No, my son, Mr. Howard knows he is to blame. He is an honest man and will repay

me," which he did. Long afterwards I found this passage in Exodus XXII, 6:

"If fire breaks out and catch in thorns, so that the stacks of corn or the standing corn, or the field be consumed therewith; he that kindleth the fire shall surely make restitution."

When I was in my ninth year my father left the thresher fully geared to haul off the grain threshed the day before. I rallied the other children to finish up the work and pulled and pushed the spur-wheel mashing into the cylinder pinion in such a way as to run my right thumb in also, hence the loss of half of it to my deep sorrow.

There lived in the edge of the woods a man who in some ways seemed to have been born short. He had an industrious wife and several bright children, was a sort of Jack of all trades, and usually had plenty of work in his "specialties." He enjoyed fishing and hunting and other pastimes that were not conducive to thrift, and even in that charitable and democratic community was always a little off color socially. He was very popular with the children of all classes, who greatly enjoyed excursions to the woods with him in search of wild fruits and nuts of all kinds of which in those days there was great abundance for those "who knew where to find them." He felt keenly his responsibility for their safety and his influence over them was wholesome and helpful. No father or mother ever had more loyal co-operation in the training of their children than he gave us on these trips to the woods. We were sometimes inclined to follow his advice and suggestions rather than those coming from our parents themselves, and many virtues or graces in our make-up are there more surely because of him. He had a very homely way of putting things, but they were no less attractive to us because of that. A single illustration must suffice.

One day in August he was our guide in a blackberry hunt. As usual he gave each of us a small pail and told us to go ahead of him, rounding up at the wagon as we grew tired. On our return eight or ten of us poured our pickings into a large pail scarcely filling it with mostly inferior berries, while he came with the same sized pail piled high with large, lustrous beauties that put ours to shame. We asked him where he found them. He replied that he simply followed along after us gathering what we had left. Seeing that we were very skeptical, he said: "You think you left none, but I tell you the truth. You gathered simply those in sight most of them being small and imperfect as you see. Many of them had been

bitten by the birds and insects or had been burned by the hot sun, while those which were under the leaves have been out of sight of the birds and protected from the sun thus insuring their natural ripening. I quietly slipped my hands under the leaves as I followed you and this big luscious pailful is the result. At the start I told you to look under the leaves, but you soon forgot it and hastened along just like most other children do." Then he generously shared his berries with us, and more than one chick had something to think about for several days afterwards. I had occasion recently to pay him an affectionate tribute in a little address to my old friends there.

One October day in 1858, a pleasant looking Knight of the Road came to the door of our home and asked for some clothes. My mother replied very positively that if he would work as hard as her husband he would not be begging for clothes. He said that he would be pleased to work but had been unable to find anything to do. After a word or two further, she told him that her husband was needing a hand and invited him to remain until he returned from Peru where he had gone with a load of grain. That evening a contract was made, and early the next morning he was making the frosty ears fly in the corn field at a brisk rate. This was his story:

He had gone to California over-land with the "Forty-Niners" in company with a friend and they had been very fortunate in their mining ventures. Two years before, with about forty thousand dollars in gold tucked about their persons and hidden in their bags, they had taken ship for New York via Cape Horn, but having been shipwrecked off Nicaragua and washed ashore with but a few thousand dollars strapped about their persons, they were robbed by Walker and his Filibusters and impressed into one of their marauding bands.

After a few months' begrudged service he had succeeded in escaping and was working his way back to his old home in Indiana. He gave his name as William, was a good worker, and soon became one of our most trusted men. He was withal an interesting story teller and we never tired of hearing of his adventures in the West and in Central America. Finding us such good listeners he proposed to get Prescott's Conquest of Mexico out of the town library and read for us in the evenings after the chores were finished. One of the pleasantest recollections of my life on the farm is of that family group around the blazing fire, listening to William reading Prescott's thrilling stories of Mexico and Peru and to his explanations and comments on them.

The winter was a severe one with frequent blizzards and

heavy snow drifts shutting us in, but the entertainment and instruction thus furnished us, young and old, could scarcely have been duplicated elsewhere within that congressional district. No choice company listening to "Twice Told Tales," to "The Tales of a Wayside Inn" or to the "Arabian Nights Entertainment" could have been more charmed and delighted than we. Then and there under the spell of that scholarly wanderer was aroused in me a love for history and biography that has never abated. We were reminded that in entertaining strangers people do sometimes really entertain angels.

When the corn was planted in the spring, that restless spirit told my father that he was so homesick he must move on to visit his people in Indiana. He insisted that while he lacked money enough to pay his fare he "knew how to make it anyhow" and must decline the small loan that my father offered, "for I may never be able to repay you, Mr. Taylor." My father, however, declared his abiding confidence in him and practically forced him to take it, remarking that if he ever reached home, he knew it would be sent back. It never came nor did we ever hear a word from him, which convinced my father that some fatality overcame him, for he was satisfied that he was more of an angel than some folks he knew who made great pretensions. There are two sermons in this story either one of which ought to be found easily enough.

Tho that Quaker neighborhood was so peaceful and prosperous, it lay along dense woods on the west which extended from eight to ten miles to the Illinois River, many parts of which were inhabited by people of a totally different character who frequently quarreled much with each other and depended largely on hunting, fishing, foraging and pilfering for their living. They were a lawless set and harbored and abetted migratory bands of horse thieves and cattle pullers who would appear semi-occasionally and arouse the whole countryside by their daring depredations, disappearing with new plunder as completely as if the earth had swallowed them up. Cold blooded murder and other almost incredible outrages on families living along the edge of the wood had been but too common in the earlier years, which had furnished many blood curdling chapters for a yellow border history of the Banditti of the Prairies issued in the fifties. Often as I rode with my father to Hennepin or Henry alongside and into those same woods, he would pick up an old settler and as we approached places where such incidents occurred, they would go over them so vividly that tho I leaned close to them with interest, I clung still closer as we passed by "the exact spot where the dare-devils got in their dirty work."

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During those same years, the Indian depredations had now and then made the settlers considerable trouble and the stories just mentioned would be made even more lurid and fearsome by including some of their wild and sanguinary excursions. As the prairies and the woods became more thickly settled with resolute law abiding citizens, the lawless element either confined themselves to petty offences or moved on west and the National Government removed the Indians to happier hunting grounds in the same direction.

In this connection it may be well to mention the fact that the woods and prairies were filled with wild game in great variety which kept us well supplied with fresh meat for a good part of each year; the streams also furnishing fish in abundance in season. Wild strawberries generous in quantity and very toothsome grew all over the prairies, while wild cherries, blackberries, pawpaws, grapes, plums, crab apples, haws, elderberries, gooseberries, hazel nuts, walnuts, and butternuts, were to be had everywhere in the woods for the picking, so that nearly every provident family usually had enough and to spare. No other kind of a holiday could be more enjoyable to us than the days devoted to berrying, nutting, and fishing. Often we returned from the woods in the evening with several big washtubs and baskets filled with luscious plums and dark blue grapes gorged with rich, blood-red meat impatient to break through their already yielding coats. A wagon box practically full of unhulled nuts was not an infrequent reward for our labors.

Our principal food game was prairie chicken, quail, ducks, geese, pigeons, rabbits, squirrels and deer, the birds mentioned often appearing in vast numbers. On a frosty or snowy morning my father could frequently stand on our door-step and with his rifle as easily pick prairie chickens off the fences and trees nearby as he could knock over a tame chicken in the barnyard. I have seen hundreds of them at such a time and in such places quietly nestling and waiting for the sun to warm them so they could fly the more easily. Few of us could arouse them with the crack of a rifle without some compunctions of conscience as we saw those graceful, inoffensive creatures tumble to the ground. The abundance with which a far-seeing Creator provided food for pioneer settlements was never more generous than in that neck-o the woods in Illinois.

In season the migratory pigeons would come and roost on the trees and bushes in the edge of the woods in quantities incredible to latter-day hunters, some good judges declaring they numbered several hundred thousand while others were so bold as to mention a million. So sluggish were these birds

in their slumbers after a day's flight that they were easily picked and clubbed in equally incredible quantities for future use.

Wolves, foxes, panthers, catamounts, skunks and muskrats were at times very numerous, and once at least every year it became necessary to supplement the work of the individual hunters of these dangerous night prowlers and thieves by a general hunt and round-up in which the residents of a designated section, from five to ten miles across, would join. Very early in the morning all would quietly go to the outskirts of agreed territory and sufficiently near each other to prevent the wild animals from escaping to their rear, march slowly to the center, beating the bushes, scanning the trees, exploring the tall grass and probing every suspected haunt on the way. Everybody was provided with several kinds of arms from a butcher knife or a corn cutter to a double barreled shotgun, not omitting huge clubs and steel pointed poles. Dogs from the little rat terrier to almost every variety of hound, and small boys, who could scarcely straddle a horse, armed with horns and whistles vied with the hunters and dogs in making an indescribable din that was intended to make every "dogoned varmint" think that judgment day had come and flee to the doomed slaughter pen at the center.

Toward noon some of the avengers of many a lost fowl, or shoat or lamb or colt or dog or perhaps something more valuable would arrive on the margin of the open field set apart for the carnage and await the coming of their companions from other directions. In the interim the frightened animals, including many very harmless ones, rushed back and forth in terror as the deadly cordon closed around them. Their cries and growls and snarls added to the awful din which was also increased by the discharge of guns fired to turn them back as they attempted to escape thru some apparent break in the line, tho most of the harmless animals, if not in season for the table, were encouraged to do so. The killing complete, the side counting up the most pelts was declared the victor and a grand barbeque wound up the day. My father was usually an active leader in these round-ups.

That community was composed very largely of the Mills and Taylor families and of other families with whom they were related before moving to Illinois or with whom they soon inter-married after their arrival. So, from Magnolia, almost to Granville, five miles north and from the Oxbow to Mt. Palatine, nearly as many miles northeast, there was a very homogeneous people, sober, industrious, progressive, religious, who not only soon transformed that virgin soil into productive

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and prosperous farms, but made it one of the most ideal communities in which to live in the whole Mississippi Valley. In speaking of it in 1890, my Uncle Joshua L. Mills said: "In all these fifty years, there has not been a murder committed within its borders, nor scarcely a single physical encounter; no one of the citizens ever became an habitual user of intoxicating liquors, or if he did so to a marked degree, found the climate too cold for him and moved on; no family ever suffered for lack of food or clothing or comfortable housing, no divorces tore families apart in all that time; but two mortgages had been foreclosed and that could have been prevented in both cases had the mortgagors but confided their embarrassment to a few of their personal friends."

They were early recognized as having the best schools in that part of the State and were known far and wide for their hospitality to strangers and for their honorable dealings with their fellow-men. They furnished many active members of the Know-Nothing, or American Party Club of Magnolia in the late fifties. Almost to a man they were ardent anti-slavery advocates and the Underground Railway on which negro slaves from the South escaped to Canada had a well stocked station, with several sub-stations for use when needed, in or near some good Quaker home. Many of them were independents in politics but naturally voted the Republican ticket in the sixties and seventies, tho they often made their power felt by going bodily over to the opposing party as they feared they were being betrayed by their leaders.

Today the John Swaney Consolidated School embraces a large part of the original pioneer school district of the forties, which for nearly fifty years had been divided into three or four single districts, and which is known as the most nearly ideally housed, equipped, organized and conducted rural school in the country. Practically the first of its kind, it became the pioneer and model of hundreds of others which are revolutionizing the rural schools and multiplying their efficiency many fold. It is located on an ideal site of twenty acres of beautiful woodland across the creek north, perhaps a hundred rods from the little brick of the fifties which long ago had been demolished and replaced by a frame building now used for other purposes, and is attended by a fine body of young people many of whom come from outside the district, gladly paying the required fee.

When I was introduced to a commencement audience there a few years ago, to deliver the address to the graduating class, I called it the proudest day of my life, for as stated elsewhere, over sixty years before, I had toddled into the little brick

ALBERT REYNOLDS TAYLOR

school-house just mentioned and enrolled as a pupil there. After a few feeling words of reminiscence, I recited a couple of stanzas of the old song:

"I've wandered to the village, Tom,
I've sat beneath the tree
Upon the school-house playing ground
That sheltered you and me:
But none were there to greet me, Tom,
For few are left you know,
Who played with us upon the green
Some sixty years ago."

It happened that there were eight of the kinders who were pupils in the brick with me that first term present, four of them from the Wilson family.

Being a Man of peace "from my earliest childhood" and always considering that it often takes more courage to keep out of a brawl than to get into one, I was occasionally subject to the imputation of cowardice which however, never disturbed me much, for my self-possession seldom lost me more than I could have gained by victory in a personal encounter and gave me a reputation for self-control that combined with a high regard for the rights of others made me friends among all classes of my fellows. Being also possessed of fairly good muscle I usually disparaged quarrels in more ways than one so that a fight seldom occurred in our crowd of boys, and even that usually came to a very sudden end, with proper apologies and "mutual protestations of high regard."

That same general policy afterward enabled me to manage my students and my boards and faculties with much less friction and more than average success. Mindful of my own shortcomings, I was always kindly and sympathetically disposed towards offenders of all kinds and sought to influence them by appeals to their higher natures, a policy which was often mistaken as indicating a lowering of my own ideals by those who knew only heroic methods in treating such cases. When milder methods failed however, they quickly learned that the quality of mercy had suddenly changed and that the ideals had not wavered in the least.

My father served a full apprenticeship at the tanner's trade in Uniontown, Pennsylvania which developed a natural mechanical and inventive endowment that served him well among the pioneers in Magnolia township, for they kept him very busy in odd hours and during much of each winter season in repairing their farm machinery and shoeing their horses. He was a thrifty farmer himself and maintained a well equipped shop for making his own repairs as well as for their accommo-

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dation. He usually had a wagon, a buggy or some machine in process of rebuilding, and so not only lost no time even in the worst weather, but had a profitable avocation which supplemented the income from his farms and kept him in ready money. It was a common remark among his employes that "There is no time for play at Uncle John's." I served a pretty fair apprenticeship in the shop myself as well as in the fields before I was fourteen years old which I have always considered as a fortunate experience.

In about 1858 he invented a self-raking reaper which dropped the sheaves behind in excellent condition, but which required the binders to be distributed so as to keep the way clear for the next succeeding round of the machine. It however, attracted widespread attention and was easily attached to a few hand-raking reapers then in the neighborhood that gave such excellent satisfaction that he decided to sell his farms and establish a factory for their manufacture at Wenona. He associated with himself a first class mechanic as superintendent of the woodworking department, and tho making a large number of them the first year was unable to meet the demands that came to him from all quarters.

For some unaccountable reason his partner refused to join with him in promoting and extending the business for the succeeding year and by the time he could relieve himself of the incubus, the McCormick self-raker, throwing the sheaf outside the path of the horses coming the next round had been perfected, and his opportunity was lost and improvement hampered by the McCormick patent. He was forced therefore to content himself with a restricted out-put and gradually turned his attention to the development of other inventions and manufactures.

It was in connection with this business that I became more expert as a mechanic and as his associate and book-keeper attained a practical knowledge of business affairs that could not be gained in the schools.

My father's military training in the Pennsylvania militia, being an officer in a cavalry company, quickened a patriotism that was known only to his religion and national holidays were celebrated by him with unrestrained enthusiasm. In lieu of a cannon, he saluted the rising sun on each Fourth of July morning with a round of anvil solos that could be heard for miles away and called the patriots of all ages to join in the salvo with fire-crackers and guns of various descriptions.

As elsewhere stated, he had been originally a democrat and in the campaign for the United States senatorship from Illinois, loyally supported Stephen A. Douglas in opposition

to Abraham Lincoln. The organized torchlight companies thruout the western states were known respectively as the "Every-Readys" and the "Wide-Awakes." Their uniforms consisted of oil-cloth capes and caps which served to protect them from the oil dripping from their lamps and gave them a combined soldier and fire-fighters' appearance that was very effective in day or night marches, particularly when thousands of them would come together for some great mass meeting where some master spirit was to discuss the issues of the day and expound his party's platform. The brilliant torchlight parades at night, accompanied by brass bands and reinforced by gorgeous displays of fireworks always attracted immense crowds and kindled unbounded enthusiasm.

The men who furnished the money for these affairs were seldom found in the torchlight processions, tho they would usually appear in the business and professional men's "Auxiliaries" dressed in long linen dusters and stove-pipe hats, acting as escorts thru the principal streets. They soon disappeared however, and mingled with the assembled throngs or held conferences with the speakers and campaign managers in committee rooms at party headquarters or at the leading hotels.

I perked around as an Every-Ready a little and helped to encourage the "Little Giant" and his aids by vociferous applause at the psychological moment. The low rumblings of the coming Civil War were often heard in that campaign and gave it a seriousness that is almost totally absent in these modern days. The enthusiasm that at times almost amounted to a frenzy and prompted frequent drills and long trips to make big campaign demonstrations so that many of the companies became well acquainted with military tactics and went thru the army evolutions with an accuracy and a precision that was scarcely excelled by the government troops.

My father had seen a great light with the opening of the campaign for the presidential election in 1860 and decided to vote for Lincoln. As a dutiful son I flopped also and become as ardent a Wide-Awake as the exigencies of the times demanded. The torchlight organizations of the previous campaign spread over the entire nation and in many sections the tension was appalling almost beyond description, the split in the democratic party making it fiercely bitter in many of the States along both sides of Mason and Dixon's line. The smoke of the senatorial battle in Illinois had scarcely cleared away until that of the new contest enveloped the whole country. The seriousness and earnestness of the former was but a pass-

ing emotion compared with that of the latter which it had really set aflame.

The drills and demonstrations so effective in the Illinois campaign now became powerful adjuncts in all the parties and were worked for all they were worth. Little did those "truth bearers" realize that they were in a way playing soldier then and that with the breaking out of a bloody fratricidal war a few months later, multitudes of them would find themselves well fitted to take their places as real soldiers in the volunteer armies that flocked to the support of their respective governments, not only in the ranks but as company and even regimental officers and that some of them would soon attain to fame as generals and commanders of great armies.

The feverish condition of the country at large as the time approached for the inauguration of the "Black Republican President Lincoln," as the fire-eaters from the South derisively called him, can hardly be appreciated by the present generation, however graphically described. In many sections it was scarcely less intense than it was along the Scottish borders during the reign of Bloody Mary.

The great comet which had appeared hardly a year before, had terrorized the ignorant and superstitious masses, North and South and loosened the tongues of seers and prophets to an alarming degree. The latter declared that great flame of fire, shaped like an immense oriental broadsword which at midnight extended almost entirely across the northwest quadrant of the heavens, to be the avenging sword of the Lord, and also predicted war and pestilence and death, the overturning of kingdoms and the destruction of the world, some of them divining in it the wrath of God upon our country for the awful crime of human slavery. The excitement of the political campaign mentioned had made most people forget those distressing forebodings, but now they returned to reinforce and deepen the gloom of all classes, the more thoughtful being the more profoundly concerned.

With the successful inauguration of Lincoln and the attack on Fort Sumter, the heat, and venom and rancor, and tension which had been so assiduously aroused and stimulated by every device known to human ingenuity suddenly increased ten-fold and under the talismanic name of patriotism converted our peaceful land into a vast battlefield and one of the most bloody fratricidal wars in all history was on with such fury that its moral motif made its titanic struggles unparalleled among modern nations.

The response to the call of the President for volunteers to defend the Union was immediate and general, even in

nearly all of the border southern states, almost every hamlet offering its quota many times over.

Stephen A. Douglas, true patriot as he was, declared for the preservation of the Union, and party lines in the North almost entirely disappeared so that Democrats and Republicans vied with each other in professions of loyalty and devotion. Space does not permit me to go into the details of these most deplorable and yet most glorious years in our history. Tho too young to meet the requirements for entrance into the army, I was wild with the spirit of the day and was hardly restrained at the later calls from running away with my older friends in the hope of acceptance along with them. I kept up a regular correspondence with some of them in the service and thus supplemented the newspaper accounts of the different battles and campaigns with reports from the ranks that were always interesting and enlightening.

That war was the making of the American daily newspaper. Millions of people who had before been content with the weekly paper, were now so solicitous about news from the front that presses could not at first begin to supply the demand for the dailies. There were few newspaper or even magazine stands in those days outside the large cities, and other localities were compelled to depend upon the railway newsboys for their supply. Farmers for many miles around every railway station would flock about it to buy the morning paper, glad to pay double or triple the regular price as the supply became low. After a great battle I often saw crowds of men, women, and boys almost fighting each other in order to get a paper, being glad to pay anything the train boy would ask, which was not infrequently twenty-five or even fifty cents. The demand would often be so great at the earlier stations reached by the trains carrying papers that thousands could not be supplied later on. The man lucky enough to secure a paper would quickly be surrounded by a crowd and forced to read even the smallest detail aloud. At such times business would be suspended in the stores, and men would stop working in the shops and factories until the latest news was announced and gratification or disappointment expressed. When it is remembered that personal friends or relatives were likely to be participating in any battle, the breathless interest aroused can easily be understood.

Hardly any one could have read those papers more eagerly or followed up the progress of the war with all of its attendant political moves than I. The Chicago Tribune became my oracle then and has continued to be in my mind the greatest and most reliable newspaper on the continent, and tho not al-

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ways able to follow it in some of its political aberrations, I have been a regular reader of it for over fifty years. When it broke with its party on the tariff question and the Inter-Ocean was established to preserve the faith once delivered to the saints, it lost a large proportion of its patrons and suffered heavily financially. Tho bravely consistent thruout the campaign, it occasionally referred disdainfully to its rival, the Inter-Ocean, as "the paper which parted its name in the middle" which responded by naming the Tribune as "the paper that parted its subscription list in the middle."

I well remember the day when the papers announced that the threatened emancipation proclamation had been issued by President Lincoln. It shocked the conservatism of my father, who along with many other Union men in the North seriously doubted its wisdom and opportuneness. The methods of conducting the war had aroused considerable criticism in many quarters, and the Democrats carried several state elections including Illinois, Mr. John O. Dent, afterwards my father-in-law being elected to the legislature partly on that issue.

The assassination of President Lincoln, however, brought universal condemnation of that dastardly act thruout the North and even in nearly all parts of the South, for his reconstruction policy had been so considerate and so conciliatory that he had immediately won its respect and confidence. On receipt of the news in our village it quickly spread thruout the surrounding country and the main street was soon a scene of the wildest confusion and disorder. Strong men met each other with tears and sobs; women gathered in groups silently weeping. All sorts of startling rumors gained currency firing the fury of the mob, ready to find almost any excuse to wreak vengeance on anybody who was not boldly outspoken in condemning the assassin. It was my first sight of a wild mob, and even tho I knew that it was mostly composed of the most peaceful men in our community I was greatly relieved when it quieted down and dispersed. It was a miniature epitome of what occurred everywhere tho uncontrollable riots broke out in some of the larger cities. It was amazing how quickly the quiet transfer of authority at Washington to the Vice President begot confidence and restored tranquility thruout the land.

Tho living a mile and a quarter out on the prairie from the little red brick Clear Creek school house, I entered it in my sixth year and reports show that I was a very diligent pupil, becoming an expert speller before the age of ten. At one of the spelling bees there, all of the contestants had been spelled down except two men and myself. The excitement

was intense and some one lifted me up on a chair as the fun went merrily on. Both of them soon missed a big word which I picked up, instantly becoming the hero of the occasion. A friend confided this incident to me recently, and I promptly confessed that I would fear to enter such a contest now.

The teacher at that time was Augusta Reniff, afterwards Mrs. Johnson Brown of Wenona, a woman of such beautiful spirit and tact that she easily made warm friends of us all. She was familiar with Solomon's observations on the rod, for it was not spared when necessary. I do not remember that I was ever given corporal punishment by any other teacher, and by her but once. Four of us small boys were entertaining ourselves by looking at each other thru our fingers and tho promptly warned to desist tried it just once more as she was looking in another direction. Having a "third eye," however, she called us forward and switched us in pairs. Tho the physical pain was ridiculously slight, the disgrace was keenly felt and the lesson effective.

Later on a fine frame school house was built three-fourths of a mile southeast of our home for a newly organized district called Center. Its pupils were made up largely from Wilson, Mills, Taylor and Tomlinson families who occupied most of the land within its bounds, nearly all of them being of the Quaker faith and zealous advocates of universal education of the better sort. Among my teachers there were John Downey, Carver Tomlinson, Henry K. Smith, and Elizabeth Wilson. The second named taught me how to write. Being a rare penman himself and writing our copies for us, he awakened great enthusiasm for that graceful art. The third was a natural artist and painted his own prizes for excellence one of which "For a good boy" I still preserve. Tho all were good teachers, "Aunt Lib" who later married Uncle Abel Mills, probably secured more earnest work from us than the others because of her gentleness and sympathetic way of doing things.

That school-house became quite a civic center in those days and the lyceums, spelling matches and literary meetings thru the fall and winter were largely attended by all classes of people. The slavery question was a fertile topic for debate and always attracted a large crowd. The most extreme speakers on that theme were my father, then a democrat, and Carver Tomlinson so vehement an abolitionist that he declared he would never go to the polls to vote until the negro was freed and given that right also. When those two crossed hatchets the sparks flew.

Those wordy encounters were not very well understood by me and I began to fear personal harm to my father. Imag-

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ine my joy one morning on hearing one of my uncles say "John and Carver buried the hatchet last night after another heated discussion at the lyceum." I knew that it meant peace, but took it too literally and planned at once to find where they had buried it and to hide it where neither could find it again, thus making their peace permanent. Little did any of us realize how soon the negro and Carver would be voting together and what a momentous contributory force these same lyceums and debating clubs thruout the country had been in educating the conscience of the masses and in bringing the great revolution about.

During several years preceding our migration to Wenona there was much sickness in our section and along the lowlands on either side of the Illinois river, fever and ague and malarial fever being quite prevalent. Typhoid fever occasionally desolated a home, my grandfather Mills and two aunts, Sarah and Martha Mills, dying with it in 1847. My brother Joe had a narrow escape, thanks to cold water baths, a wise physician, and the best nurse in the world, my mother. Diphtheria became epidemic in the early sixties, my cousin Alonzo Taylor, a lovely boy, being a victim. These diseases were for several years quite common and often virulent, especially in the undrained prairies between our neighborhood and the Vermilion River also,—shallow surface wells being charged with contributing to them. The progressive physicians finally won out, quinine making that section of Illinois a garden spot in the Mississippi Valley.

The Civil War, terrible as it was, stimulated popular education, the national government land grants to the different States making it possible to finance the necessary buildings and teachers generally as needed.

In moving to Wenona at the age of fourteen I still found it easy to retain my relative scholastic standing in its schools, and I was soon admitted to the high school which then occupied a large room in the Adelbert Hotel, owned by my uncle Samuel J. Taylor. The principal was A. B. Cummings, a man of rather unusual parts, who kept things going at an interesting pace every minute of the day, and who did some fine teaching for us. He had but one eye, and yet that eye was as useful as three or four ordinary teacher's eyes and when an offending student was caught in the act, his athletic ability quickly revealed itself. He frequently gave me an encouraging word which spurred me on to more earnest endeavor. Having about completed the courses offered there, I was sent to the Illinois State Normal University in the fall of 1864, continuing for two terms. I shall never cease to be grateful

for the exacting character of the training I received there. Tho it required much memorizing and a vast amount of mechanical detail, it developed systematic habits of study and organization at the very time in my life when most needed, and it has dominated my methods in everything I have since undertaken. The influence of the men and women in the faculty was potent in quickening my vision and in stimulating endeavor, while the president, Richard Edwards, led them all in his ripe scholarship, intense zeal, and forceful manner. John W. Cook, who was then just beginning his teaching career, placed me under greater obligations for his sympathetic interest and helpful way of doing things than any one else. He was the first schoolmaster I had yet met who was also a man of affairs and at home in any circle. Our friendship has grown with the years, and his advice and counsel have been invaluable on many occasions.

It was while at the Normal that my mother's letters were more fruitful than at any other period of my life in wholesome suggestions and affectionate appeals for the things that make for righteous living and true manhood. Her abiding confidence in my integrity was a powerful factor in helping me to remember and observe her injunctions. She was an excellent English scholar and a graceful writer, hence she used few words in expressing her ideas. That she knew how to advise a youth sympathetically, this extract from one of her letters will show:

"I am greatly pleased with the marked improvement in thy penmanship, but disappointed in thy rhetoric. As an example, thee is inclined to use the same word frequently in close connection when a synonym could be well used or the sentence reconstructed. I hope soon to see as much change in thy rhetoric as in thy writing.

Do not spend all thy time in study, but go into society more. Seek the companionship of refined young women. They will give thee higher ideals of life and help thee to appreciate them. If thee is needing more money at any time, write us promptly and we will send it to thee."

As my environment had been changing and enlarging, I had come into contact with an increasing number of people, old and young, whose training and ideals differed greatly from mine, and some of whom were already forming habits that sooner or later might lead to their undoing. Tho not always as wise as I should have been myself, I had strength to resist many temptations and to exert a wholesome influence over most of my associates. The slurs thrown at me that I was afraid and that I was still tied to my mother's apron

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strings did not often disturb me but usually had the opposite effect.

At the close of the second term I entered the newly organized Wenona Seminary in my home town, then conducted by Professor C. F. Diehl, a man of wide learning and experience, and withal a most competent and enthusiastic instructor. In my little book "Among Ourselves" I thus speak of him:

"I look back tonight and count nearly a score of teachers on my fingers, and raise the question of their influence upon me. Just one crowds any or all of the others out, and that one was neither the handsomest nor the most learned among them. He was the only one however, who seemed to live wholly in his pupils. He seemed to have no other ambition than to serve them. He loved his home, he loved his church, he loved his books; but his great love was for his pupils and somehow they all felt it and all knew it. They could hardly tell how, nor why, but when they were counting up their friends they never left him out and his genial, unselfish spirit had love enough to go round them all. It appears a little strange now I think of it, but every other teacher seemed to have some other ambition, some other love, superior to that which he had for his pupils. One was planning to study law; one was stocking a farm which he soon expected to settle upon; one was building up a great library in which he spent his happiest hours; one was engrossed in his scientific investigations and experiments; one had his eye on a higher position; one had

A charming lover so fair;

And another was just trying to earn a livelihood; but this dear soul was simply living for us. As he surrendered himself so completely to us, he was able to exercise an influence over us which called into being the best impulses of our nature. His supreme indifference to self and his sublime devotion to us served as an irresistible stimulus to attempt great things. I owe much to many of my teachers, God bless them all, but this man kindled within me many of the noblest ambitions of my life."

There were many fine young men and women in our circle who under his leadership vied with each other in efforts for

higher standards of scholarship and of daily living. We did much original work for the schools of those days and maintained a live and aggressive lyceum and debating club, which brought out several promising writers and speakers who afterwards became quite prominent in public affairs in Illinois and other western states.

It was under the influence of such a spirit that nearly all the students in the seminary, along with most of the young people in the community, including myself, professed religion at the Methodist Church in a series of revival meetings there.

Among the young men I met there, was Clinton R. Mitchell, who was following Greeley's advice and going West for his fortune. He had received a good common school education at his home in Indiana and on reaching Wenona secured employment in the Fowler grain office where he soon made himself invaluable. As grain receipts decreased, he was allowed hours off each day for attendance at classes and later on had practically all his time for study. He easily ranked among the first in many subjects and in the fall of the succeeding year was elected superintendent of the Magnolia public schools, where he gave eminent satisfaction. He and I became fast friends, and he was a frequent and welcome visitor at our home. We studied together, rehearsed our declamations and debates together in a vacant barn near by or in any room in the Seminary at our disposal, both of us being mutually very helpful in our criticisms and emulations. He later studied law in Bloomington, and entered upon its practice at Arkansas City, Kansas, where he soon became prominent in public affairs, serving in the State legislature and as a regent of the State University with much credit to himself and the state. The effect of this friendship, which is still as warm as ever, on my future career will appear later.

Another student in the Seminary, Walter Reeves, tho not so intimate a friend as Mr. Mitchell, was an active leader in Seminary affairs and afterwards became a prominent teacher and public school superintendent, rounding out his career with several terms as congressman from his home district. I have always deeply appreciated his friendly interest in me and his influence in opening the way for me to engage in institute work at Pontiac which led to my election to the presidency of the State Normal School of Kansas seven years later.

Like many other youths I fancied that a mercantile career was the most promising which I could enter, and after a few terms in the Seminary was engaged as a clerk apprentice in the general store of B. Fowler & Co. at Wenona. It was an

excellent school for me in developing several phases of my character and in giving me a very practical acquaintance with business methods that I found of incalculable benefit in after life. The manager, Mr. Ephraim Fowler, was an expert book-keeper as well as a man of refinement and culture, and he proved an inspiring instructor in more ways than one. After a year's service with that firm, a double summer-sault in the administrative policy of Andrew Johnson, the presidential successor of Abraham Lincoln, caught me innocently enough and thru a misunderstanding on my part, as the duly installed deputy postmaster.

Thinking the arrangement had been made by agreement among the Fowlers and that as a temporary shift it would be a profitable experience, I was rather pleased with the new position as it brought me increased responsibility and salary, and also proved profitable enough as an experience, but in a few months the national administration again changed postmasters and I was adrift.

Just then Major Powell of Wesleyan University, Bloomington, under the auspices of the national government was forming a party to explore the Grand Canons of the Colorado, invited my cousin Cadet Taylor and myself to go along. We promptly consented and proceeded to make arrangements for the trip, when almost at the last moment we were asked to furnish our own mules. In the meantime cousin Thomas K. Mills invited me to join his party for an overland drive to Greenfield, Mo. and Fort Scott, Kansas. As my health was none too rugged I accepted, hoping to benefit by it.

Our party consisted of us two and Henry Carney, an ex-soldier of the Civil War, and Henry Fowler, just out from college in Massachusetts. We drove two spanking good teams, hitched to long light spring wagons with up-to-date equipment for camping. We also took along an easy riding pony for scouting and obtaining needed supplies. It being autumn we could pick up nearly enough game day by day to keep us provided with fresh meat. We had many interesting experiences of all sorts and stopped occasionally for a brief visit with friends and relations on the way. As cold weather approached, we traded off our teams profitably, coming home from Sedalia, Mo., on the railway in time for Thanksgiving, greatly improved in health and full of heartening stories for our friends.

My father had long urged me to associate with him in the machine shop and take charge of his books and correspondence, which I now did, remaining with him over three years. I made myself useful not only at the desk, but in several de-

partments where my mechanical genius came in good play. As rush of work demanded occasionally I acted as foreman of some department temporarily and thus became invaluable to him. In addition I attained to such a knowledge that I was well prepared to become the superintendent or manager of almost any similar establishment.

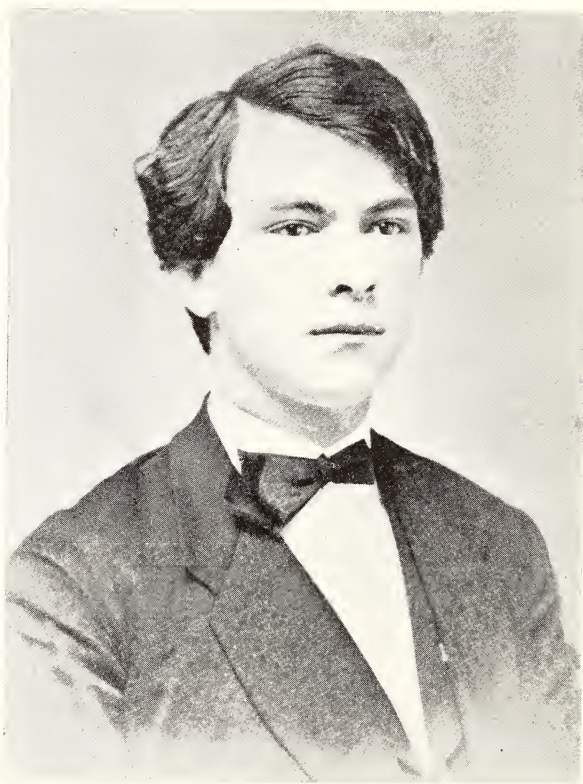
But at twenty-three years of age I found it impossible to content myself with such a career and thought I saw my future success and happiness in the practice of law. A young graduate of the Wesleyan University at Bloomington had become pastor of our Cumberland Presbyterian Church and often beguiled me with the stories of his college life and the advantages of a liberal education. He laid out a course of reading for me and insisted that my talents were worth developing in a large way. As friends of our family visited our home, many of whom were refined, cultured people, I found myself much embarrassed because of my lack of information and my inability to converse with them intelligently and entertainingly. Often did I make some excuse and slip to my room, there to sweat out my chagrin and mortification, frequently discovering it impossible to find refuge in sleep.

A few of my intimate friends returning from college for their vacations were innocent contributors to my unhappiness and restlessness, and at last in the sheerest desperation I told my parents that I must go to college.

Having saved enough money to pay my expenses for the first two years, I decided to enter Knox College along with my warm personal friend, Job. M. W. Moore, as my roommate, both of us having conditional freshman recognition. Just before leaving home, however, my good friend, Edward L. Monser, tempted me greatly by proposing the formation of a partnership to manufacture and wholesale agricultural implements, wagons and buggies, in which he already had an extensive trade. His business and my father's manufacturing plant were to be put in for what they were worth, and I was to manage the factory. I did not hesitate long, however, for my head and heart were set on an education at all hazards tho I probably would come out of college without a penny.

The Fall term at Knox confirmed me more than ever in my purpose, as it gave me a larger vision of what really constituted a liberal education. I was very happy in the atmosphere of an ideal home life in the family of Mr. and Mrs. John Bassett, whom I shall always hold in grateful remembrance. The short, crisp chapel talks of President Gulliver were quickening and inspiring, and the class room instruction of my instructors equally stimulating.

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A FRESHMAN AT KNOX COLLEGE, 1869

Eugene Field was a fellow freshman and became much attached to Moore and myself, we three being frequent visitors at each others' rooms and having much in common. He was already dabbling a little in poetry and humor, also prose composition which he confided to us and which we fully appreciated. As I was barred from the Greek fraternities, because I was taking the Latin-Scientific Course only, Field declared I was too good a fellow to be deprived of such associations and proposed to us to form a fraternity on a little more liberal basis, which he felt would quickly extend to many of the best colleges of the country. This we proceeded to do, finding much pleasure in formulating our constitution, ritual, grips, and signs. Our first achievement was to take an active and successful part in the organization of the freshman class. As I entered Lincoln University at Lincoln after the holidays however, I lost interest in the matter. Recently I met a Knoxonian student who told me that it had had a precarious youth but had won out and now is well recognized.

As before stated, I now entered Lincoln in response to the desire of my father, who owned a scholarship there, it being under the auspices of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church of which we were members. In some ways the transfer proved advantageous, for its religious spirit was more marked than that at Knox, and I at once fell under the friendly care of Professor D. M. Harris, the young minister formerly mentioned, who had become professor of ancient languages in its faculty with responsibility for some work in the natural sciences. His interest in me soon brought me into a prominence which I scarcely deserved, but which spurred me to increased effort in all my studies. He often visited my room and with much eloquence and no end of enthusiasm demonstrated the great possibilities of liberal scholarship. He was all afire with the new doctrine of the correlation and conservation of forces and regaled me with fervid dissertations on its scientific importance also. He made helpful suggestions about my reading and urged diligent practice in writing and in forensics in general, all of which I attempted to observe.

I was also extremely fortunate in immediately forming the acquaintance of two young freshmen of like spirit with myself, we three falling desperately in love with each other at first sight. They were noble fellows and our friendship was mutually incentive to the development of the best within us. I made many warm friends there whose memory is ever green, but John Taylor Foster and John Meredith Logan lead them all in my memory and affection.

I was not long in joining the Amasagacian Literary So-

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ciety which afforded me frequent opportunity for exercise in declamation, essay, oration and debate, the opportunity being further emphasized by a stiff fine and an audience with the faculty in case of delinquency. I represented the society in two annual contests with the Athenians, once in oration and once in debate, winning both of them. They were often crowded with interested outsiders from the city when popular speakers were on the program or society or inter-society spirit was running so high that something thrilling might happen. The meetings were conducted in strict accordance with parliamentary rules, and many of the liveliest discussions developed on points of order and appeals from the Chair in which a dozen or more members might quickly become involved. Factional feeling frequently ran high in them, but what if it did? Such is life and such experiences but the better fitted those prospective citizens and statesmen for the more serious contests which would later confront them. Their animosities were very ephemeral then, and so they should be in the open field where more serious problems are sure to arise. Tho I have had intimate acquaintance with the work of many literary organizations, I have never known any others that were so successfully organized and conducted. They, along with the Neatropheans and Amicitians, the young women's societies, which met in the afternoon of each Friday, were the life of the College and invaluable adjuncts as literary and forensic laboratories. It is a pity that few colleges now maintain such efficient organizations.

There was no hazing at Lincoln in those days, occasionally there were pranks played by some smart Alecks that aroused the wrath of the administration, but they were passing events soon forgotten in the earnest life prevailing. Sporadic attempts to organize baseball constituted our chief athletic diversion. The presidency of the baseball club was imposed on me at one time, but as there was little interest in the game I did not gain much celebrity by it. The members of the faculty conducted student Bible classes in the Cumberland Presbyterian Sunday School which were well attended and had a wholesome influence on the college life.

In anticipation of assignments on the commencement day program, some members of our class proposed a petition to the faculty asking that scholastic rank should not be considered in making it up, as had been the custom in preceding years. After a heated discussion however, the class adjourned without action and nothing more was heard of it. Each one was required to present an oration and as the class was so large, fourteen in all, a morning and evening program was ar-

ranged, the salutatory and valedictory addresses being placed on the latter, thus giving it the greater dignity and significance.

I completed the course for the Ph.B. degree with such standing that I was appointed salutorian of my graduating class. Had I taken the classical course I was told that I would have been valedictorian on the same rank, but I was pleased that a better man, J. Wood Miller, was given it. While not caring particularly for the honor, I have always regretted that I did not take much Greek tho what I did has served me well, especially in its etymological use in the analysis and application of technical terms in my scientific and philosophic studies as well as in my general reading. My course in German also was limited, but in a linguistic way it has meant much to me.

Had I suspected that I would finally become a teacher, I would certainly have included more language and literature in my course and spent at least two or three years more in preparing for my calling.

I well remember my embarrassment over my inability to purchase a new suit for the occasion to replace the old, thick winter one which included a heavy black hat. I knew it looked rusty, but I cleaned it and brushed and pressed it as best I could and "sweat it thru." I had forgotten it, but an old friend of mine told me the other day that I revived my rusty cloth coat buttons with black ink also. That fact has enabled me to sympathize with scores of prospective graduates who have asked to be excused from attendance at their graduating exercises because of a similar handicap. I would relate my experience and after telling them that it was a good thing for me, kindly assured them that it would be for them too and that usually ended the matter.

At the close of my oration I had such showers of bouquets from my friends that they cheered and encouraged me greatly; their fragrance is with me still. The subject of my oration was Constructive Imagination. None of the generous compliments which I received gave me more satisfaction than that of Dr. Samuel Richards, the very learned and accomplished professor of Systematic Theology, tho probably no one was more delighted than my beloved mentor, Dr. Harris.

The expenses of my college course had practically taken all of my funds, including my earnings in the machine shop during my summer vacation, for I lost no time after each commencement in resuming my place there. So here within a few months of my twenty-sixth anniversary I had still made little special preparation for my chosen profession. At eighteen I

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had considered myself too old to enter college and so had lost nearly five years in experimenting in lines already mentioned. My financial condition made a newspaper proposition and an academy principalship offer very tempting as a temporary expedient. But Providence seems to have had other work for me to do.

During the early spring of my senior year, President Bowdon's health was so poor that he was absent in the South for rest and recuperation and I was asked to take charge of two of his classes. My students were very cordial in their expressions of satisfaction with my instruction, and at last I was approached by Professor Harris with an intimation that I might be asked to serve as tutor in the natural sciences for the following year. On commencement day he also requested me not to leave on the early afternoon train as I had planned, for the Board of Trustees might like a personal conference with me in regard to the tutorship. I quickly replied that I must go as stated and that if the offer of the place was made, it would be without even such an appearance on my part.

A day or two later a letter from President Bowdon arrived notifying me of my appointment and expressing an earnest hope that I would accept it. I had a presentment that such acceptance would mean the surrender of my cherished law plans and the devotion of my whole life to teaching, hence was a few weeks in reaching a decision. Before the close of the year I was promoted to a full professorship, which sealed my fate, for I took it as a call to a service which opened the way for great usefulness that I ought to heed. I have never felt that I was altogether mistaken.

The social opportunities of students at Lincoln were increased by the personal interest taken in them by the citizens in those days. They were not only frequently invited to functions in their homes but also to meals, particularly on Sunday when many a poor fellow was longing for a chance at his mother's good dinner. Very thankful am I for such consideration and also for the occasional evening as a guest in some refined family which helped to shape ideals that I afterwards largely realized in my own home. During my career as teacher all of this was much enhanced by the privileges of the Art Club, fostered by Mrs. R. B. Latham and other women of kindred tastes and culture, her spacious home being its recognized center.

While enjoying hunting very much in my boyhood, I found no pleasure in wantonly killing any harmless or non-food animals. One day I had been in the woods and found noth-

ing to shoot, but as I started homeward I saw a beautiful wild canary in the top of a very high tree and tried my markmanship on it. One small shot pierced its breast and it came down fluttering into my hand lying there panting and dying with appealing and reproachful eyes that haunt me still restraining me from such inexcusable sport.

As soon as we could toddle we children became regular attendants at church and Sunday school. All of us had our baths on Saturday evening and our shoes and boots cleaned and oiled or blacked and placed in a neat little row in the kitchen for use the next morning. My parents on a spring seat in a big farm wagon with the help and us children sitting on board seats or hay and comforters made a quick drive to the little church in the edge of the timber where both services were held.

William Street, a rare, consecrated superintendent, made us most welcome. We recited our verses, sang away like nightingales and had some good advice from him and our teachers. Each of us carried reward cards home for scripture memorized and in due time brought them back to exchange for larger ones until the maximum brought a beautiful prize on prize-day.

I think I must have committed thousands of verses to memory many of which have been and still are easily recalled, as occasion demanded. Very early some office was given me and with leading the singing, teaching a class and acting as superintendent at times was quite a busy factor in the Sunday-schools I attended even in my teens.

In 1874, I was elected an elder in the Lincoln church and have since then represented the eldership in the various church judicatures many times over, having been moderator in all of them except the General Assembly and served on many important committees, including some of them dealing with the union and reunion of the C. P. and Presbyterian U. S. A. churches.

Grace at meals from my childhood and morning reading and prayer at home have been our custom which have ever been a source of guidance and strength to us. Tho in my early years quite set in my religious views, my studies in Christian ethics and my more intimate fellowship with consecrated men and women eliminated much of my narrowness and developed a broader charity towards all people satisfying me that some of them from whom I differed could possibly be living a better life than I. My Quaker heritage kept alive the idea of a sufficient spiritual guidance if we but heed its voice, hence I have ever been thankful that I was rocked in a Quaker cradle.



ASSEMBLY HALL AND LIBRARY, ORIGINAL BUILDING IN REAR,
LINCOLN COLLEGE

Part II

Lincoln University

1872-1882

The University had practically no laboratory equipment at that time and having persuaded the Board to grant me a small allowance I bought a little supply of inexpensive pieces and considerable material with which I was able to construct quite a variety of apparatus and make a majority of the experiments needed in physics, chemistry and mineralogy. Additional allowances from time to time enabled me to increase the equipment so that our laboratory courses became very popular features of the curriculum. In 1875 the General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church met at Lincoln. I was chairman of the entertainment committee and being in communication with all the commissioners, I improved the opportunity to make a personal appeal to them to bring something with them for our natural history cabinet. Many of them responded cordially and several tables were filled with fairly valuable contributions that others increased later. They made a good beginning for a collection, which in the next seven years reached very satisfactory proportions for a western college of that day and required several cases for its accommodation. I learned the art of taxidermy very soon after I began to teach and taught it to several of my students who found much pleasure in helping me to place a fairly representative collection of birds, insects, and a few other animals on our shelves.

In those days the available books on teaching were neither very numerous nor very scientific, and I found little help on methods and management. Page's Theory and Practice was illuminating and inspiring but scarcely more than an introduction to the subject. Later Rosenkranz's Pedagogics was translated by Dr. W. T. Harris and Anna Brackett and tho greatly involved in thought and sentential structure, proved of incalculable value to those of us who were seeking

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for fundamentals and constructive leadership. The great gap between Page and Rosenkranz soon began to be filled by writers of more or less ability, and in a decade many helpful books appeared on a variety of phases of the teachers' work, its bibliography being surprisingly comprehensive by 1890.

I was really very poorly prepared for the work assigned me as a teacher and have always said that I succeeded, because of my keen enthusiasm and method rather than by the breadth of my knowledge of my subjects. I am perhaps entitled to say that I spared no time nor labor, day or night, that might increase my fund of information and enhance my efficiency as a teacher.

The training which I had received at the Illinois State Normal University was extremely helpful to me and from the first dominated my methods in many respects. For a long time they were rather empirical, as they were also dictated largely by my own experiences in working out problems and establishing principles, for as they had contributed so largely to my success, I imagined they would also to that of my students. Even with my little laboratory I was able to lead them largely by the inductive method, for there was always abundant room for field work in botany and zoology. As I afterwards became acquainted with methods evolved from the results of psychological investigation by our pedagogical experts, I was surprised and gratified that mine were so generally in accord with them. The enthusiasm and rapid advance of my students however, had been their highest endorsement. To this day as I meet them, they often speak of their obligation to me for the influence of those methods upon them in begetting larger vision, more intensive thinking, keener discernment, riper scholarship, and nobler ideals of life. Many of them had been classmates of mine in the preceding year or longer, and yet almost without exception now cooperated with me in a most delightful way. My sense of appreciation of their generous attitude in spite of my shortcomings grows with the advancing years.

I had been very fortunate in my student home life, and as I began teaching was equally so in finding rooms with Rev. and Mrs. James Ritchey, both of whom had given a half century of service to the church and were now living at Lincoln for the purpose of completing the musical education of their daughter Kate, a most brilliant and versatile young woman who kept the home alive with music and good cheer. Mr. Ritchey was giving some time to field work for the University and was also a trustee. My room-mate there was my cousin Andrew Mills who had also been with me my senior

year at the home of Mr. and Mrs. James Andrew. We were to each other all that brothers could be, and our affection has deepened with the years. The old folks were purists which was a good thing for me in those days of transition to new responsibilities.

I was in some ways still more happily domiciled with the opening of the second year in the charming home of Mr. and Mrs. George A. Brown. They were New Englanders, cultivated and refined with two lovely children and a few companionable boarders who contributed much to the enjoyment of the little circle. I found great pleasure in taking our host and hostess into a secret and planning for the installation there of my coming bride.

The wedding occurred in the home of Mr. and Mrs. John O. Dent, parents of the bride, on the evening of October 16, 1873, the Rev. Leroy Woods of Streator, Illinois, officiating. That is the simple announcement of an affair which meant much to the daughter, Frances Minerva, and myself. It should be added that the brides-maids were my sister Isabel, the bride's sister Mary and her long time friend Miss Jessie J. Lynch. The groomsmen were John T. Foster, J. M. Logan and the fiance of Mary, Augustine Y. Morris. The reception at my parents' home on the next evening formally completed the festivities. My entrance at chapel the next morning was the occasion of a very noisy demonstration and the presentation of a handsome silver tea set from students and faculty that upset me for the day. Dear Mrs. Brown immediately adopted Mrs. Taylor as her foster daughter and became our loved counsellor and friend.

Before the close of the preceding year, President Bowdon had gone to his reward. He was a man of good general culture, an entertaining conversationalist, an eloquent and witty speaker and withal very popular with us; hence it was not easy to find a suitable successor. The contest finally narrowed down to a choice between Dr. A. J. McGlumphy, vice-President of the faculty and Dr. Guthrie of Scotland, the progressives campaigning very industriously for the latter who was very clearly superior in scholarship and attainments to any other man mentioned. The friends of the former however, brought such personal pressure to bear that he was elected to avoid serious friction. He was a superb class room instructor, but lacked vision and the inspirational qualities that are needed for an executive officer.

On the evening of November fifth our first daughter came to us and was promptly christened Jessie Minerva, which seemed to please the little sprite very much. She was a real

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sunbeam and brought increasing light and joy to our home with each recurring day. She had her own way as far as judicious parents could allow, until July 14, 1879, when Kittie Mary arrived and was properly enthroned in all our hearts, being quickly appropriated as her very own by her elder sister. If all parents were as equally blessed in their children as we, this world would be very full of exceedingly happy homes.

In the Winter of 1872-3, the great Union revival in Lincoln occurred. Evangelist Hammond, who was expected to conduct it, found his work at Bloomington so fruitful that he cancelled his engagement with us and insisted that we could do it ourselves. The University faculty and the students united enthusiastically with the city people, and almost every home was blessed as never before. Daily prayer and conference meetings were held at the college and practically every student entered upon a new life or became more zealous in Christian service. The Sunday-schools of the city rapidly increased in numbers and interest, particularly that of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, which most of the students attended. Tho I had held an office of some kind in the Sunday-school from my early teen days, I had not taken its possibilities and importance so seriously as now when I took charge of a class under the quickening impulse of that great religious awakening. A few years later I was elected superintendent of that school and soon had nearly fifty earnest, consecrated teachers at work with me in efforts to increase its efficiency. When I left for Kansas, the total enrollment had increased to about 450, nearly double that which I had received from my predecessor, and which occupied every foot of space in the church, including the choir loft and a new primary room in the basement.

Among the many to whom I was greatly indebted for sympathetic and helpful suggestions and assistance in building it up, were Mrs. D. M. Harris, superintendent of the primary department, J. H. Danley, chorister, and our wide-awake and progressive pastor, Rev. J. M. Hubbert, easily the prince among the pastors of that church during the thirteen years of my connection with it, tho all deserve a warm word of commendation and appreciation. After the revival meeting mentioned I was elected an elder and greatly enjoyed and profited by the fellowship of the earnest men composing the session of the church. In 1875 I was a delegate from Mackinaw presbytery to the General Assembly at Bowling Green, Ky., and in 1880 and 1881 President of the Cumberland Presbyterian State Sunday-school Association, which was already doing far-reaching things for our schools thruout Illinois.

I had always been a teetotaler and a staunch advocate of the suppression of the liquor traffic by law, hence I was frequently on the ward or general campaign committee at the city elections. My interest in state and national politics has never abated, tho as a teacher I have always thought it unwise to take an active part in political campaigns for my work's sake.

In conjunction with the Logan county superintendent I had been giving a few courses along with the teacher's institute for a Summer or two, when I was much pleased to receive an invitation from Superintendent Tombaugh of Livingston County to serve as instructor in the natural sciences in his institute at Pontiac, the suggestion having been made by my friends, Superintendents Diehl and Reaves. On account of an old custom in vogue there, he found some prominent county teachers urgently demanding assignment of three out of four of the subjects to them. He told me of his perplexity, and as I had been compelled to carry some of the common branches also in the Academy at Lincoln, I quickly relieved him by taking them there also. So well was he pleased with my spirit and methods that he recalled me six different Summers in succession, in which time I assumed most of the work in natural science and gained increasing knowledge and skill in the methods of teaching teachers.

About 1877 R. B. Welch, a graduate of Wesleyan University at Bloomington became superintendent of the Pontiac city schools and also a regular instructor in the institute. He was a mathematical expert, a good thinker, and a popular instructor. Out of the 250 teachers in attendance, he succeeded in inducing about twenty to buy the new translation of Rosenkranz' Pedagogy and to form a class in it with the others as interested listeners. Each evening he would bring two or three of the instructors to my room and we would digest the next morning's topics with much care. I found an ulterior end in this method, for he insisted on my sitting with the class and taking the leading part in the discussion which he provoked by playing Socrates in asking questions. It was this introduction to the philosophy of education that made it possible for me to enter with such assurance of success upon that larger study of the problems which have been confronting me for over forty years in the various positions which I have held in the educational world.

In 1879 Mr. Welch was called to the presidency of the State Normal School of Kansas. We had become such fast friends that he proposed to me to enter his faculty there as soon as financial conditions would enable him to offer me a

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satisfactory salary. I was flattered by this evidence of confidence and his declaration that I was the best man he had ever seen in the schoolroom. Coupled with the tentative offer made later was the statement on his part that he had decided to resign in two years and would assist me in succeeding him. I visited Emporia for a personal conference and met the secretary of the Board of Regents, Dr. J. J. Wright, a very delightful man, who afterwards became a much prized friend. Tho I saw a future for the school, I told Mr. Welch that I could not think of making the presidency proposition a contingent of acceptance, but when the formal offer came, would give my answer based upon the inducements which I saw in the department of natural sciences only, for it was that which he wanted me to develop.

Two years later he resigned as he predicted. I had not seriously considered myself fitted for the presidency of a State Normal School, but as he had succeeded quite well, I thought possibly I might also do so. A few friends kindly commended me to the Board of Regents for the vacancy, and my old time Wenona Seminary friend, C. R. Mitchell, so impressed them with my qualifications that in April, 1882, I was wired to meet them at Emporia for an interview. I found several other candidates awaiting a hearing too; one of whom detained the board so long that I almost despaired of a hearing at all. The hour was late when I was called and I was not detained long. Perhaps the brevity and clearness of my responses to their inquiries pleased them, for early the next morning I was notified that I had been unanimously elected as president to serve "during good behavior." I thanked them heartily and told them that I trusted that they had not made a mistake, for they had preferred me above some very capable and experienced men.

They invited me to accompany them to the School, where I was congratulated by President Welch and introduced to the faculty and students at chapel. The reception was very cordial, and I made a brief informal address which seemed to please them. On leaving home my wife had expressed the sincere hope for success, and I had simply replied with confidence "I am going there to get it." I was not long in sending a message which gave much joy to a little family circle in Lincoln. President Welch invited me to dinner and took much pains in acquainting me with some details of administration and other matters, which proved quite illuminating and helpful afterwards. He also kindly invited me to deliver the address to the graduating class in June and proposed an elaborate inauguration ceremony. I replied that while much

appreciating his spirit, I preferred to assume the duties of my office without ostentation and to make my inaugural address along with my valedictory later on.

I had been instructor at the University for about six years when an unpleasant church trouble arose, resulting in the resignation of our pastor. Before the college year expired, he began a silent campaign among the trustees for my removal and his election to the vacancy. Being a graduate of Yale College and prominent in the denomination he imagined that he could easily accomplish it; indeed two weeks before commencement he very quietly took our President into his confidence, informed him of his plans and notified him to keep hands off, for it was already settled. He further said that he had no charge to make against me or my work; that the church owed him the position and that he could serve it better in a college than in the pastorate.

Tho warned to consider the matter confidential, the doctor promptly gave me the whole story and advised me to take the defensive. I declined to do so, stating that if six years of consecrated service, such as I had given, would not protect me from such a wanton attack as that, I preferred to leave. I heard little more of it until the day before commencement, when I learned that a protest against it, signed by practically every student in the University had gone to the board and that many of them were staying over to see that it was respected.

In those days the meetings of the board were public and along with others I went to the afternoon session following the graduating exercises. There I was surprised to see some of the staunch friends of the institution remaining over as Rev. James White told me, "in your interest or rather in its interest." Like George Washington, I withdrew as action on the matter came up and was deeply gratified to learn that fourteen of the fifteen members voted for me.

That evening the students and friends headed by a brass band surrounded our home and made sweet music for an hour in expression of their joy and good will. My wife had slept little for nearly a fortnight on account of her anxiety over the situation, tho it had not disturbed me much. This ovation touched me so profoundly that I lay awake until nearly morning recounting my blessings and this signal manifestation of loyalty from those to whom I was giving my best life. One especially gratifying feature of this spontaneous movement in my behalf was that its work was practically done before my most intimate personal friends knew anything about the matter.

My reasons for leaving Lincoln were the stolid conserva-

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tive policy of the president and the lack of funds for its maintenance.

The financial management was inexcusably bad and gave no hope for improvement. The unpaid balances on meagre salaries promised continued to grow distressingly larger, and the business credit of every member of the faculty was correspondingly discounted. I left there with less money than I put into our family expenses from outside sources, and it was not until a new policy was adopted under a new management that I finally succeeded in getting a settlement several years afterwards. That new policy accomplished much in reestablishing the credit of the college and in enlarging its endowment and facilities on a basis more in accord with modern ideals for which the management is entitled to the highest praise.

After the announcement was made that I had accepted the Kansas position, Mr. M. W. Barrett, a prominent and wealthy business man of the city, whose friendship and confidence I enjoyed, met me and expressed regret at my going, saying that if a financial consideration was taking me that I need not go. I was much flattered by this and thanked him for his kindly interest and appreciation.

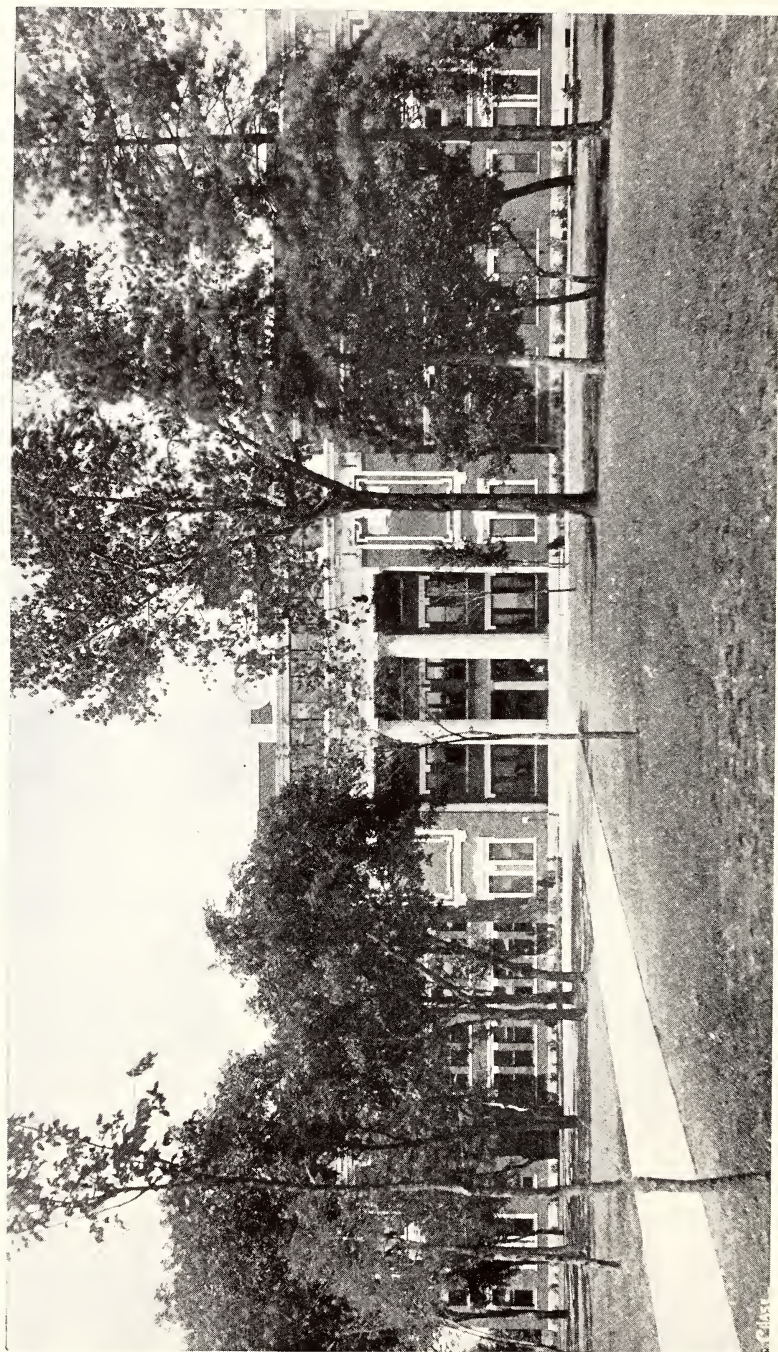
We disposed of our home and superfluous household effects advantageously and leaving my family to make farewell visits at Wenona, I went to Emporia late in July to prepare for the opening of the Lyon County Institute, which Superintendent Wharton had graciously asked me to conduct.

I am loth to close this chapter without some further word about the many sides of my life at Lincoln while a student and an instructor. The paucity of funds in the University treasury already mentioned, with the consequent sacrifices forced upon the instructors' families in those days without weakening their devotion to its interests or dampening their enthusiasm constitutes a noteworthy page in the educational history of Illinois. Those experiences kept us very close together and hallowed a fellowship seldom accompanying happier material conditions. I have often recalled with unalloyed pleasure the blessed associations of those years and the influence they had upon my life in fitting me for the larger responsibilities which afterwards faced me.

I would find much satisfaction in reciting the names of members of the faculty to whom I confess abiding obligation; of the many scores of young men and women in my classes who even now continue to be an inspiration to give the best within me to service because of the great part they have played and are playing in the business and professional

ALBERT REYNOLDS TAYLOR

world as well as in civic and community affairs generally ; and of the citizens of Lincoln and the friends and patrons of the University at large who in the face of many discouragements were ever loyal to its interests and to us personally. Tho lack of space forbids, they are found between the lines of all these pages,—*Mcmoria in acterna!*



KANSAS STATE TEACHERS' COLLEGE, ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
LOBBY ENTRANCE TO ALBERT TAYLOR HALL

Part III

The State Normal School of Kansas 1882-1901

I had consented to work in the County institute at Emporia because it would afford me such a fine opportunity to get acquainted with the Kansas educational system and sample its teaching force. I think it one of the wisest and most profitable pieces of work I ever did, for at its close I found that I had made many warm friends among all classes of people, particularly among the teachers. That was a dry, hot Summer, introducing September with terrific hot winds that seemed like blasts from vast prairie fires and destroying almost every green thing in sight. The assurance that such weather was unusual helped to reconcile me to it.

The number of personal interviews and letters from prospective students had become quite encouraging before the close of the institute and as I had no secretary, kept me busy every spare minute, but now even the night hours were hardly sufficient to dispose of the business properly. I was much gratified at this however, for I knew it meant increased attendance for the coming year. President Welch had canvassed many parts of the State and made friends for the school wherever he went, hence much of the old antagonism was being replaced by a sympathetic interest in it that was assuring.

The problem of entertainment for the coming students was a serious one and I set about finding homes in a very methodical way, visiting and inspecting many of them myself that I might have first hand knowledge of their condition and facilities for meeting the demands of the different classes of students, for I already knew the importance of locating them in suitable homes to insure the best results in study and social development. I found them and their parents greatly pleased to have me go with them to assist in finding satisfactory rooms and I did so whenever possible, walking or hiring a buggy if necessary. That plan gave me a very good ac-

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quaintance with them before the opening day and made them at home with me as I faced them in our first general conference.

I learned that three of the leading members of my faculty had been at least passive candidates for the presidency and that there was a little resentment that the Board had seen fit not only to go outside the School but outside the State for the new executive officer. I was gratified however, to find them ready to give and take advice in a friendly way and the classes were organized with no more delay than usual. I was distressed however, at the cumbrous manner in which it was done, for the program was made up in response to a show of hands for each subject and hour which took much readjusting and was very unsatisfactory when done. I submitted patiently, but very soon afterwards proceeded to arrange a permanent program for each term even tho its possibility was doubted by them. The scheme was published and the students told that they must become regular as quickly as possible and adjust themselves to it. It proved to be so well planned that few changes were found necessary in the succeeding terms, thus enabling us to assign students their hours for the entire course in advance if so desired and insuring regular class work the second day of each term.

I found the method of keeping accounts and of reporting and entering students records very antiquated and as soon as practical made radical changes in them. Without going into further detail I will simply state that I gradually took up many other problems of organization and management with a view of increasing their efficiency in every possible way, in which I always found some members of my faculty deeply interested and exceedingly helpful.

The School was then offering four courses for graduation, three of them for the diploma, which by law was a life certificate to teach in Kansas. Admission to them all was on certificate of completion of the work prescribed in the grades. The first requiring two years, was called the Common School course and included ten semester units in the first year and an equal number prescribed from the second and fourth years of the curriculum. The second, requiring three years, was called the Elementary course and included the first, second and fourth years of the curriculum, with certain electives from the third year. The third, called the Advanced course, included the entire curriculum of four years with a few electives. The fourth, called the Academic course, included the first three years of the curriculum only. Its diploma was not a certificate to teach as it did not include any strictly professional

work, that being principally offered in the fourth year of the general curriculum.

The Common School course was intended to fit candidates for teaching in the rural schools and in the grades of the city schools, but as so many of them accepted high school positions, principalships and even superintendencies it had brought the institution under severe criticism in many quarters. In the senior class I found 34 Common School students and only eight others. It took some courage to abolish that course even tho one more year of grace was given, but it was promptly done and the standards raised all around. I was warned that the attendance would drop materially and that our graduating classes would be cut in two if I insisted on the change. Tho the latter did occur, for the class of 1885 contained but 18 graduates and that of 1886 but 27, the raising of the standards at once gave us recognition among the better class of institutions and brought us a much superior body of students.

At one time there had been four State Normal Schools in Kansas but their antagonism, or rather the antagonisms of their friends had become so great that all had been discontinued except this one, which possessed a fine building and an allotment of government land on which it afterwards realized an endowment of nearly \$300,000. In appropriating a few thousand dollars in 1881 to meet some old debts of the school, the legislature had inserted a clause "that in the future no more appropriations shall ever be made for its support." This was a bad handicap of which I was ignorant, but nothing daunted I went to the legislature of 1883 and succeeded in securing an appropriation of \$3,873 for current expenses for the next biennium, a begrudged sum in those days of poverty stricken Kansas. In that effort, however, I discovered that the friends of the defunct schools were not all dead and that a dangerous heresy was being propagated to the effect that the "Emporia Normal was little more than a local high school." The advance in our standard was my first reply; the citation of the fact that all higher educational institutions even including Harvard, Yale, Berlin, etc. had a large proportional local attendance was my second; and my third was the record showing that many of the apparently local students were temporarily there for their education and that its graduates were in service in all parts of the commonwealth.

Kansas is a large State, however, and as some smaller eastern states had several State Normal Schools, I saw that more would come in Kansas before this one was properly equipped unless the rising demand was switched off in some

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way. To do this I proposed to our Board of Regents that we pay mileage one way in excess of \$3.00 paid for railway fare to all Kansas students paying tuition for a full semester, thus practically bringing the school within one hundred miles of all parts of the State, the rates being three cents then. They asked me where I would get the funds to do it. I replied that they would come in the increased tuition, it in reality being a rebate on the fee of each student receiving it. They promptly adopted the plan and it not only served a good purpose in securing needed appropriations, but popularized the institution and attracted hundreds of students from outside our immediate locality. It is true that at nearly every session of the legislature one or more bills for reviving the former normal schools or the establishment of others were introduced, but they failed to become laws because of our mileage system and the growing disposition to equip one first class school properly before loading up with others. It was not until the National Government in 1899 turned the Hays Reservation over to the State for an auxiliary State Normal School that an additional one was established.

The provision in the organic act establishing the State Normal School at Emporia that its diploma should be a life certificate to teach in the public schools, was a valuable franchise, and but a just stamp of approval on the State's own effort at training its teachers, but as it was now growing so rapidly it aroused the antagonism of the private schools and colleges efforts were made at every session of the legislature to repeal it or to extend the franchise to them, tho few pretended to give much instruction in professional subjects. Of course, we opposed all such legislation, which naturally awakened hostility to our increasing appropriations.

Conceding the justice of some recognition of the academic work which graduates of the better colleges who appeared for its examinations for the state certificate had done, I proposed to the State Board of Education to accept their records on those subjects and examine them only on professional subjects. The other members claimed however, that we could not legally do so and no action was taken. In 1893 the legislative committee of the Kansas College Federation submitted a certificate bill to the legislature and I was invited to meet with the joint committee of both houses where I was able to convince them of its danger to our standards and so prevented its adoption. I finally drafted a bill however, embodying the proposition mentioned and an increase in the membership of the State Board to seven, which our friends assisted them in passing. It enabled the board to revise the work in the colleges and

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to standardize them on the basis of the courses at the State University and the State Normal School. To do this they were required to possess at least a certain amount of property, including laboratory and library equipment, a stated income, a reasonable pedagogical library and employ at least one approved pedagogical professor. As they were given representation on the Board, the plan proved popular and developed most friendly relations among us. The Normal School continued to grow just as rapidly however, and they later insisted upon the award of a state certificate for the graduates of their four year professional courses for the A.B. degree as approved by the Board. As the better colleges were undoubtedly keeping faith with us in the maintenance of standards I joined their committee in formulating an amendment to the law to that effect, which was adopted by the legislature in 1897. Tho the new standards could not be met by the private normals which now soon ceased to exist, the impetus given to better professional training for teachers was most marked everywhere and prepared the way for more exacting certificate qualifications than ever before. I have always felt that my services in securing these results were no small part of those which I rendered to Kansas during my term of service there.

The State Board of Education, of which as President of the State Normal School I became *ex officio* a member in 1882, prepared the courses of study for the county teachers' institutes, licensed the instructors of the same, prepared the questions for the county and state examinations, graded the papers in the latter and issued certificates for the same. Little attention had been paid to the professional phases of these tests and very elementary courses and questions had been prepared in the natural sciences. These subjects were now assigned to me and I at once made some radical advances in both, which at first aroused considerable criticism and protest. Some of the leading instructors insisted that the rather simple laboratory work required in the sciences could not be done with the apparatus available.

The point I wished to stress however, was the great value of illustration and experimentation and the possibilities of making a large variety of comparatively simple experiments with inexpensive apparatus, much of which could be made by the instructor himself with very little labor. They soon set the pace for all of the subjects and developed a much more wholesome and progressive spirit among the teachers generally. To this day I am meeting old Kansans who inform me that they had cause to remember their first acquaintance with me on account of the exacting labor required in mastering

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those courses and preparing for the tests. We later differentiated the pedagogical work more fully into the five professional courses for the state certificate, which was a material advance over nearly every State in the Union and which has made the average Kansas teacher more truly professional than in most of them.

During the administration of State Superintendent Edmund Stanley, the Board of Education took a great step forward in an elaborate revision of the courses of study for the county institutes which could also be used in the rural and grade schools, based upon the principles of correlation then being developed and adopted in many quarters. Methods of grading the rural schools and of a closer grading of the town and city schools were included in the course together with many other helpful suggestions for its use. The responsibility of this revision was largely placed upon me and its cordial reception in spite of unfavorable comments by ultra conservatives was gratifying to myself and to my associates in working out the details. It is but proper to add that much of it had already been worked out and tested in the State Normal School and in some of the public schools of the State.

On taking charge of the Normal School I found the most meagre equipment imaginable. Several basement rooms were without flooring and numerous conveniences were wanting in many parts of the building. There were several annoying little debts hanging over us and no legislative appropriations for expenses of any kind, our sources of income being limited to the interest on a small endowment fund and the prospective tuition fees. I had occasion to give a little order for supplies to an Emporia business man as the term was opening and meeting him shortly after told him to send in his bill and it would be paid. He stopped and looking at me curiously said: "What's that? I like that but we have not been accustomed to it here." I told him we were going to pay now or not go, which called out another expression of pleasure. Elsewhere I have mentioned the first appropriation secured by me. That sum added to the amount we could spare from the now growing tuition fund enabled us to make additions to our jumble of a library and to the apparatus in several departments and also to finish up some rooms and install a little furniture here and there. These new things improved the atmosphere and put new life into faculty and students.

Before the meeting of the legislature in 1885 the attendance in the Normal Department had grown so much that I asked the Regents to request appropriations conformable to our needs including a new wing on the west; while in their

report formally approving my recommendations as a whole, they neglected to emphasize specifically the urgency for the wing, which grieved me greatly. As the legislature assembled however, I asked for a meeting of the Board and insisted that they send President Rice and myself to Topeka to make the attempt. They authorized it and I spent an hour afterward in a personal appeal to Mr. Rice to throw himself into the campaign. He took the next train for Topeka and after spending a few hours interviewing legislators, went home, writing me that he found a very kindly feeling towards us and actually thought there was some chance for a good appropriation.

I went up and interviewed General Taylor of Hutchison, who had just been appointed Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, and who was there for the avowed purpose of securing a prospective reformatory for his city. He was very ready to promise me a favorable report on our bill which I induced his associates to help him to keep. Our Senator L. B. Kellogg laughed at me as I told him of my confidence in getting the bill thru the House and then said: "Well, you get it thru the House and I will take care of it in the Senate." I was a novice in lobbying then, but I discreetly secured the pledges of a large majority of the members of each House to favor the bill before allowing it to come to a vote. The result aroused unrestrained enthusiasm at Emporia and proved a great advertising card for us.

The addition was completed by the next February and yet so great an influx of new students had appeared that we were scarcely in it before the cry for more room was on again. In their next report the Regents advised remodeling the old assembly room among other things named. The Ways and Means Committee did not favor the assembly room proposition but allowed funds sufficient to finish and furnish all the remaining basement rooms and to cut the attic over it into half a dozen recitation rooms, which gave us a little more breathing space. Still the eager students came in greater numbers. The mileage system gave us representatives from practically every county in the state and our undergraduates and graduates were everywhere demonstrating the advantages of the professional instruction which we were giving them. So great was the demand upon us for teachers that we were constantly embarrassed because of our inability to meet it. As we were again rapidly approaching the "suffocation point," we set about organizing an active campaign for an east wing, which should be large enough to accommodate all the students whom we could reasonably expect to come to us in a quarter of a century. On account of the urgent demands for more

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normal schools in other parts of the State, we knew that it would be no light task, particularly as we decided that we would continue our policy of neutrality in regard to such efforts.

For more than a year before the legislature of 1893 would meet our students began going home shouting this slogan: "A New Wing and a New Assembly Room for the State Normal School." They helped us to arouse the alumni to take an active part in the campaign and all of them strove to enlist the friendly interest of candidates for the legislature in all parties, so before it assembled, we knew fairly well that we had a safe majority in both houses. The House War, mentioned later, queered our plans greatly and we were forced to use every honorable expedient to pilot our bill safely thru the legislature. A large committee of influential citizens of Emporia ably seconded by our indefatigable and ever loyal friend, Hon. Rodolph Hatfield of Wichita, camped in Topeka at the critical time and placing themselves under my leadership soon assured us of its passage. When I reached Emporia, I was met by a big delegation of students, who unhitched the horses from a cab and drew me up Commercial street in state to the Normal building where felicitations were exchanged. The general joy found pyrotechnical and vocal outlets in the evening.

In this campaign as well as in many others which required careful management, we were always ably and faithfully supported by our local representatives, whose names Emporia should not be disposed to forget. The amount appropriated for the building was \$50,000, as much as twice that now.

In order to have sufficient land upon which to erect the addition, it became necessary to purchase a small strip on the east and I was authorized to open negotiations with Governor Eskridge for its purchase. He asked about twice as much as the highest amount fixed by any of several competent appraisers, which the board promptly declined to pay. It offered twenty-five hundred dollars, about the average of the appraisements, and no attempts at compromise accomplished anything. It began to look as tho we might lose the building and I appealed to the citizens for aid. In a very short time fifteen hundred dollars were subscribed. I finally made him a flat proposition of four thousand, which was the highest amount any appraiser had named. He accepted the offer and I paid him the money.

We made elaborate arrangements for the dedicatory exercises of the building and its beautiful and commodious assembly room. I made several efforts to have the faculty and

regents decide upon a name for the latter, but the program opened without any agreement of which I had knowledge. As the President of the Board of Regents, Hon. Rodolph Hatfield, was making the dedicatory address, he startled me by turning my way and saying: "Mr. President,—In recognition of your great services to this institution and of your splendid faith, I am authorized by the regents and faculty, with the approval of a host of friends to christen this elegant and spacious assembly room with your name—'Albert Taylor Hall'." He then picked up the very large vase filled with beautiful flowers which stood upon the table and presented it to me in a very gracious way. My feelings can better be imagined than described as that vast audience arose in wild applause, adding to my discomfiture. I assured them that tho I did not feel worthy of the high honor accorded me, I would strive to deserve it by more faithful service in coming years.

I have never been able to convince myself that its name had anything to do with the coming of that terrible tornado one night in the following Autumn, which tore off its massive roof and hurled some of its heavy timbers thru the roof of the main building disfiguring its walls and furniture amazingly. The storm continued until morning, eight inches of water falling in the driving torrents, keeping a force of men busy thru it all dipping and mopping the flood of waters from the assembly floor to protect the ceilings and floors below as far as possible.

The original beautiful main building had been destroyed by fire in 1878 from spontaneous combustion of coal stored in the basement where the steam boilers were then located. Tho they had been transferred to the big basement pit of the old stone building on the North, an occasional danger of a recurrence caused me great uneasiness. One evening in 1895 heavy volumes of smoke and fumes burst forth from the middle of our half Winter's supply of coal, which could not be suppressed until a gang of workmen had spent almost the entire night in wheeling up the coal to the outside. The fright proved serious enough to move the legislature to provide for the erection of a new boiler house farther away and for the remodeling of the old one into a long-needed gymnasium.

A faculty of nine already selected for me constituted my first teaching force. They were with one or two exceptions excellent instructors and apparently desirous of cooperating with me in every possible way. At the end of the first year a strong petition was presented to the Regents asking for the removal of one of them, alleging a limited knowledge of his subjects and general lack of professional skill. The petition-

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ers were given a personal hearing by the Board and at my suggestion the Professor named a few students to present the other side. I thereupon advised a year's probation, assuring them that he should have every assistance possible to make good. They granted it and I urged the petitioners to follow the Golden Rule and do the same. Tho both gave it unstintedly he resigned at the end of the year.

J. N. Wilkinson, principal of the Decatur, Illinois, high school, a graduate of the Illinois State Normal University, and a successful teacher, with whom I already had a favorable acquaintance, succeeded him. He was one of the best informed among the schoolmen that I had ever met and at once became invaluable to us in various ways exercising a wholesome influence on the professional spirit of the Model School of which he was also principal as well as over the other members of our faculty whose work was more intimately correlated with it. This relieved me from much responsibility in that direction and enabled me to devote myself to other phases of our work with greater freedom and efficiency. He was a man of strong will power and restless energy which was characteristic of that always displayed in our relations to each other in the seventeen years we were yoke-fellows there.

At the Spring meeting of the Board of Regents in 1885, I was surprised over a written communication from two of my Professors asking for certain changes in the internal management of the school, accompanied by an intimation that if their requests were not granted their resignations might be accepted. The specific complaint was that they were being ignored by me in administrative matters about which they were entitled to more consideration. It happened that I was then following the suggestions of one of them in several cases and at that time had placed the selection of an assistant in his department in his own hands, all of which I explained to the Board, and without a word of comment their resignations were accepted.

Their places were filled with those two superb teachers whose names will always be recognized among the master spirits that created a new era in the educational development of Kansas. I refer to Dr. T. H. Dinsmore and Professor M. A. Bailey, whose coming to us was one of the most fortunate events in our history and whose departure ten years later was a loss not easily understood. The former was an enthusiastic advocate of the laboratory method of teaching the natural sciences and a skilled manipulator of apparatus. The latter was a recognized authority in mathematics and equally strong in up-to-date methods of teaching to whose perfecting he had

already given himself unreservedly. The two thus relieved me also of anxiety in their specialties and gave me time to build up other departments.

This is an indication of the policy I always observed; as quickly as I could thus reorganize and fairly equip a department, I would turn to the next in order of its urgency. The English Department under Professor Viola V. Price was doing some fine work when she resigned, asking acceptance, which was reluctantly granted.

We had been gradually enlarging and organizing the library so that it was becoming useful to nearly all the departments when a surprising appropriation of six thousand dollars, made possible evidently by the oversight of the critical eye of Senator Jumper, and followed by another of four thousand for the next biennium enabled us to quadruple our library facilities and employ an expert librarian full time. The English Department was thus given an equipment more worthy of its place in our curriculum.

The induction of M. Louise Jones as Professor of English at that time gave us the advantage of her ripe scholarship, long experience and rare executive powers as a member of the library committee and in the extension of the work of her department. In a single year all the departments began to feel the stimulating influence of the new life in the English courses. It ere long reached out into all of our institutional activities and became a great factor in the moral and religious uplift so characteristic of the School in those days. Ten thousand students have reason to call her blessed.

The most capable and aggressive spirit in my first faculty was Professor Lillian F. Hoxie of the art and geographical departments. She had not been favored with such educational opportunities as the other members generally, but had improved such as she possessed in a remarkable manner. She was at home in any circle and her rare conversational powers revealed a range of information and a breadth of culture that always gave her respectful and interested hearing, but in the school room, afire with an enthusiasm that never lagged, she exercised an influence seldom excelled. I considered her at that time the best all round woman I had ever seen in the school-room. Her resignation on her marriage in 1887, was deplored by the whole profession in Kansas.

Emily Kuhlmann, of bless'ed memory, was conducting a Kindergarten in the Normal building under the immediate supervision of Professor Davis of the Model School, who had with the approval of President Welch become responsible for her salary above that met by the fees. It was used as a sup-

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plementary training school and therefore received a small allowance from the regents. I found the Board disinclined to make it an organic part of the School and the above arrangement continued for the year. In the meantime I quietly educated them a little and one day in the Spring when they were with us, I said: "Gentlemen, we spend the hour in our pedagogy class today discussing the Kindergarten. Would you like to hear it or spend the time in the Kindergarten itself?" Much to my joy they chose the latter and came back notifying me that they would unanimously approve my recommendation to make it an integral part of our work. I think that Kindergarten was the first one thus fully recognized in any normal school west of the Appalachian mountains. Under Miss Kuhlmann, whose training and experience in Germany and France eminently fitted her for its leadership, its popularity attracted hundreds of students, teachers and friends in increasing numbers thru the years. It practically revolutionized the primary work in the cities of Kansas long before she passed to her reward in 1898. That change was not simply in method, but in spirit and devotion as well, for she had the happy faculty of transforming even listless, indifferent students and teachers into wide-awake, consecrated lovers of little children. It was of her I wrote the day we laid her away amidst the fragrant flowers:

Love came this way
On Mercy's mission bent
But seeing our Friend
In gentle ministry, said:
I am needed elsewhere
More than here.

I have often felt that I was divinely led in the selection of many members of my faculty, but never more so than when I offered the new chair of Latin just established, to Joseph H. Hill in 1887. A graduate of the Normal in 1875 and 1876, and the Northwestern University in 1887, with several successful years as teacher and principal intervening, he had accepted ordination in the M. E. Church and was expecting to devote his life to the ministry. He came up to see his alma mater one Spring morning and I took a liking to him at once, made my proposal and after a frank talk on the rare opportunities for service and for helping young men and women to a better life which the position offered the deed was done, and for nearly twenty years he wielded an influence for higher scholarship, purer ideals and holier living not often equalled in institutions of higher learning. He quickly caught my own ideals in the development of his department and in personal

service for his students so that my hands were multiplied many times over in his loyal response. It was the most natural thing imaginable that later on he should so enthusiastically be called to the executive chair himself.

The chair of Latin was added in spite of another clause in an old appropriation bill limiting the courses in the Normal School to those required to give the teachers a good English education and aroused some opposition in the legislature farther on. It was not difficult to make most intelligent people see its wisdom as well as its necessity, if we were to attract the more ambitious and progressive teachers to us. Similar opposition met us in our efforts to furnish instruction in election, music, French and German, advanced courses in art, manual training, science, gymnastics, etc. It was argued that the school was founded for the purpose of fitting teachers for the grade schools only and that we were trespassing on the functions of the State University in educating teachers for the high schools, for principalships and superintendencies. Our reply was that our graduates were going there anyhow and that we ought to educate them properly for those positions; that the demand was always far and away beyond the supply and further that there are greater reasons for the liberal education of the teacher for any grade than could be found for those going into other occupations. On this platform we campaigned and educated the teachers and the people and convinced the legislatures that we were entitled to the increasing liberal appropriations for which we were asking each biennium.

The inauguration of the courses in manual training is a good example of the slow process necessary in several cases. I was naturally very much interested in its introduction because of my predilection for the manual arts, but more particularly because I saw the immense educational and vocational possibilities in its general introduction. There was practically none of it in the West outside of St. Louis and Chicago, indeed little more in the East. I succeeded in getting two Swedish instructors in sloyd from Chicago placed on the program at the State Teachers' Association, supplementing the allowance from its funds for the expense by personal subscriptions among us at Emporia, etc., so as to bring them there for a week. Their exhibits and lectures seemed interesting to the teachers at Topeka, chiefly on account of their novelty, but their visit to us was a distinct and intelligent gain for the new movement, several of our teachers and students making a special study of it and taking the laboratory work offered.

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By making a fervid appeal to the Ways and Means Committee at Topeka in 1889 for a small allowance to purchase initial apparatus, I made a little start in equipping a room in the basement and encouraged some voluntary elementary work in it which however, was not very satisfactory. An equal appropriation for the next biennium helped me to keep a little life in it, but I had no money to pay for a regular instructor. Even if I had, correspondence failed to find an available man or woman in the whole country. At last I was fortunate in securing Supt. C. W. Woodward of the St. Louis Manual Training School for a lecture, which I fixed at the time of the meeting of the Regents. He was loaded for the theme and made an eloquent and convincing appeal for its introduction into the schools of the country. An hour with our Regents afterwards made them at one with me in organizing the department and employing an expert instructor. I went to St. Louis, Chicago, Washington, Brooklyn and Boston in search of an instructor and when I had about despaired of securing one, I had a call from F. B. Abbott, who was doing vacation school work in the subject in the last named city. He had taken a good course in it as well as in elementary art work, and I was so pleased with his personality that I engaged him. Thus after several years' delay we were able to organize the department and offer up-to-date courses in advance of many other state normal schools in the West so far as known. The equipment needed came slowly, but Mr. Abbott patiently worked out his problems and was not long in sending forth well prepared teachers in response to the demand which later came from all directions. He is entitled to a large meed of credit for the success of the venture.

On account of lack of space I find myself embarrassed in being unable to give even a brief paragraph to each of a score of other teachers who were with us long enough at Emporia to organize or enlarge other departments of the school with equal efficiency and whose enthusiasm and cooperation also contributed in no small measure to its increasing usefulness. Whether mentioned or not they are most gratefully remembered by me and I often recount their fellowship and services with affection born of appreciation and gratitude. Among others are Sue M. Crichton, the wide-awake untiring elementary critic teacher of the Model School; Martha P. Spencer, the great hearted, sweet spirited organizer of the department of elocution, Dorman S. Kelly, the devoted and conscientious builder of the museum; Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Boyle, co-professors of music, whose ideal and indefatigable industry made their department a most popular feature of the School;

Achsah M. Harris, the rarest primary critic teacher in the Mississippi valley, a mistress in all the arts needed to train and inspire teachers of little children; Mary A. Whitney whose social and scholastic equipment constituted an ideal personality in the chair of history and civil government which she has graced with ever increasing satisfaction to the loyal body of young men and women who have flocked to her classes; Emma L. Gridley, modest, refined, quietly filling out each day in her labor of love as head of the fine arts department; Daniel A. Ellsworth, genial, unassuming, faithful and progressive in working out the possibilities of the study of geography in the educational scheme; Thomas M. Iden, bachelor, but the shepherd of almost half a thousand young men each year whom he gathered into that wonderful Upper Room and taught the way to live—scholarly, cultured, ever magnifying his calling at the head of the department of chemistry; Lyman C. Wooster, whom to know well was an education in itself, the eighteen hour a day worker in field and laboratory who after a third of a century's study was willing to acknowledge that there were some things in the plant and animal life of the globe which he did not know; Eli L. Payne, lightning calculator and snappy teacher of mathematics, who could make every student have two thoughts where there had been but one before, helped everybody by demanding Q. E. D's. on all occasions; Eva McNally, dignified, studious, content to serve tho recognition was long delayed, placed hosts of her students under lasting obligations for her patient, unflagging zeal in helping them to a more skillful use of the English tongue; William C. Stevenson, the self-made, energetic organizer and vitalizer of the commercial department and of the military battalion, everybody's friend and confidential advisor of many a discouraged and stranded student, Captain of Company H of the 22nd Regiment Kansas Volunteers, largely composed of students whose patriotism was ignited by his fiery zeal for his country at the opening of the Spanish-American war; Maudie L. Stone, a fine example of the results of scientific physical culture and an expert instructor in calisthenics and gymnastics who reorganized the courses in that department and selected the apparatus for the new gymnasium which became so popular under her direction; Cora M. Marsland, superfine by birth and education, a woman of exquisite literary taste and keenly alive to dramatic promise in young men and women, who as head of the department of expression for nearly a score of years revived the lost art of good reading in hundreds of Kansas Schools; Sue D. Hoaglin, true-hearted and ardent lover of dramatics, who magnified her calling by her devotion to

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her students and her unabating zeal in their behalf. And there are others, among them a royal line of assistant instructors worthy of unstinted commendation.

In the selection of my office force I was always most fortunate. Tho at first allowed no paid clerk I was able to use some student help that gave me relief in extra busy parts of the year. A small allowance the second year enabled me to engage Miss Lulu Holmes, an advanced student, for a few hours each day. She was quick and accurate, doing a surprising amount of work in the time allotted her. Later on she also served as instructor, part time, with rare success. Her death, due largely we thought to overwork, was a distinct loss to the institution. She sleeps in Maplewood along side her devoted friend, Emily Kuhlmann, where fragrant flowers are still dropped by those who knew and loved them.

W. S. Picken during his last two years as student, was invaluable in helping to organize the office business on a more economical basis. He possessed unusual executive ability which assured his successful career in the educational world afterward.

L. W. Baxter, alert and resourceful, allowed no opportunity to pass unimproved whereby he could make himself useful to me and to the School. R. S. Liggett, tho not with me so long was a conscientious and earnest man at the desk. A. T. Mills gave two good years in service with us, part time, and tho more heavily burdened than his predecessors successfully disposed of details with great satisfaction to us.

A. S. Newman on his graduation in 1894 became the first full time clerk allowed me. He quickly assumed responsibility for all office routine and soon took the initiative in improving it in a variety of ways. Tho its business had increased many-fold with our rapid growth, it was so wisely managed that we repeatedly received the highest recommendations for its systematic conduct and the uniform accuracy of our reports from the State Auditors and State Accountants.

Our correspondence had long been a burden before we were provided with a regular stenographer. Maude McKenzie quickly relieved us as she gave part time to it and placed all of us under deep obligations for her ready response and willing service. Pearl Stuckey who succeeded her with full time service was of the same rare class and most happily fitted for the exacting demands of the later nineties. How can I sufficiently express my gratitude to all of them for their patience and fidelity to their trusts?

My relations to the several successive boards of Regents were extremely cordial. I do not mean by that that we always

agreed on everything, which I regarded rather fortunate than otherwise, for it sometimes kept me as well as them from making serious blunders and insured deliberation in the consideration of important matters. At the first meeting of the new Board in 1883, Mr. Samuel Thanhauser, a man of excellent sense and tact, proposed that it should not act upon any question until it had been so shaped that it would receive a unanimous vote. That policy prevailed thru my whole administration, except in rare cases, the dissident "gracefully acquiescing in the judgment of the others."

I took the position that I was their servant not simply to carry out their behests but also to enlighten them and advise them freely on all administration questions; that while we were jointly responsible for the conduct of the institution, my relation to it placed the greater onus upon me and that in exercising the liberty in their deliberations which they had so kindly given me, I would not hesitate to support my views freely as occasion might demand; that whether they approved or rejected them their verdict would always be accepted gracefully by me and would be faithfully executed. They clarified our relations a little more by stating that they were disposed to respect and support my policies and recommendations on the internal management of the school with little or no question, but that they felt themselves equally competent in association with me to pass upon and manage its financial affairs, a policy which in my opinion is worthy the attention of all boards of control of schools and colleges.

I discovered that many heads of institutions of all classes interested themselves in the appointment of members of their boards, but except in one or two cases I did not approach the Governor of the State with any suggestions and those were to ask the reappointment of men who had been signally useful to their fellow-members and could not well be spared. A friend expressed surprise that I did not make recommendations as many others did, but I replied that when I could not serve a board of the State's own creation, I would either ask them to resign or resign myself, and further that my sense of self respect would not allow me to do it, as I would not want any member of my board to feel that he was under obligations to me for his appointment. Two of the officious members of my faculty tried it at one time and the Governor politely told them that when he needed their advice he would call for it.

Occasionally a Governor would call me in to ask if a certain person would be acceptable to me and two or three times appointments of friends were made that I had reason to believe

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were intended as personal compliments; one of them was Judge Nelson Case of Oswego, and the other Hon. Rodolph Hatfield of Wichita, the former a classmate of mine in the Illinois State Normal University and the latter a former student of mine and a graduate of Lincoln University. Governor Stanley was perplexed about some candidates who were urged upon him in his second administration and delayed action until the last evening for the introduction of new business. As I came into Topeka from a trip East I found, at nearly ten o'clock, that he had not sent any nominations for our Regents to the Senate. Much alarmed I rushed to his office and refreshed his memory. He did not seem disturbed but replied that he could not make up his mind about those appointments. I turned to his secretary and said, "Please give me a sheet of paper and I will send in some names for him." The Governor laughed and said, "Mr. Secretary, send in the names of J. H. Glotfelter, F. J. Alswager and L. B. Kellogg. I don't know what President Taylor will do with those two Dutchmen down there, but I guess they are good men."

If space permitted, it would please me greatly to name the thirty or more different men who served as regents during my administration and to mention my personal appreciation of them for valuable services to the institution, not only in periods of special need but in the regular conduct of its affairs. Many of them gave much valuable time to the furthering of its interests in their own localities, in enlightening their friends among the legislators regarding its policies and needs and at working at the various problems arising from time to time. Much praise is due them for their disinterested devotion to their trust, for with scarcely a single exception none of them ever asked me to nominate one of his friends to a position in the faculty. I recall now but three cases and I found them so satisfactory that they were appointed, serving with credit to themselves and to us. Their loyalty to the school and their freedom from factional rivalry was ever a source of encouragement and inspiration to me.

The greeting given me by the leading educators of Kansas in 1882 showed that I would have their ready cooperation in my plans for extending the usefulness of the School in every possible way. The members of the State Teachers' Association made me feel at one with them at the very first meeting and in spite of my modest protest honored me greatly by electing me president over several very worthy candidates at the next session. Again and again was I honored by the Kansas teachers in their various organizations and as their

representative in the National Educational Association. Some of them kindly made me a life member in the last named, and a few of the Emporia business and professional men joined in making me a life director in its management.

I was a member of the Committee on the Kansas Educational Exhibit at the World's Fair in Chicago in 1893, having personal charge of the collection of the same and its display there. I was also one of the vice presidents for Kansas at the Pan American Exposition at Buffalo in 1901. I shared with others the organization and direction of the Kansas Teachers' Reading Circle for several years and served on legislative committees entrusted with responsibility for formulating and securing needed modifications of the school laws.

In 1891 I was elected a member of the National Council of Education, a body of educators organically related to the National Association, composed of sixty representative educators in the United States. It was therefore a most honorable distinction in our educational world, made signally so in my case by my election to the presidency of the Council in 1897 for its meeting in Los Angeles in 1898. One important feature introduced by me into the program of that meeting proved so popular that it has been repeated each succeeding year.

One day early in 1901, Governor Stanley called me up over the 'phone, asking whether I would be willing to serve as a member of the State Text-Book Commission. I responded that I was not a candidate, but that if he desired me to serve it would give me pleasure. He replied that several candidates were being urged for the vacancies, but that he desired to have at least one man on the commission of his own choosing. There was thus one member whose place sought him.

In 1873 the Lincoln College Alumni Society authorized me to publish an Alumni Journal on my own financial responsibility, assuring me of its hearty cooperation. I published it for about three years, making annual reports thru the board of directors. As I look over that neat publication, I consider it, as I did then, worthy of a very generous support not only by the alumni and students, but by all friends of the University. That failed to come in the way of subscriptions and after the usual sacrificing struggles to float it, I made my final report to the society, announcing an indebtedness of three figures and advised its discontinuance. That journalistic experience however, was remarkably fine training for me as it gave me serious practice in writing, in criticism and in other rhetorical lines in which I considered myself lamentably deficient for "a professor in a university."

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In my lectures and in newspaper and magazine articles I attained such standing that in 1887 I was invited by the Board of Publication of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church to write a book on the Sunday School for its forthcoming series of uniform volumes for general circulation. Having delivered many addresses on the subject at Sunday School conventions and chautauquas, I at once accepted and out of it came "The Church at Work in the Sunday School," which had a very satisfactory sale and which, I have often been assured assisted and inspired a large number of workers to a more efficient service.

In 1896 Cowperthwait & Co. of Philadelphia, asked me to prepare a little book on "Civil Government in Kansas," which went into the institutes and schools of the State as a supplement to a more general treatise on civil government in the United States. It proved to be a very helpful handbook to students and to others for ready reference.

The State Normal School Quarter-Centennial in 1889 suggested the publication of its history, which I undertook with the assistance of some of my faculty, more especially of Secretary J. N. Wilkinson. A vast amount of searching and verification was required to insure accuracy and proper credit to all who had contributed to the founding and upbuilding of the School. Fortunately files of daily papers and the carefully preserved clippings of its first Principal, L. B. Kellogg, were at our disposal, besides office records and personal reminiscences of other former administrative officers, everyone of whom was living at that time.

That history, the first of its kind in Kansas proved interesting reading to many others outside of our immediate circle and was a revelation to all who read it. Ex-State Superintendent Goodenow, whose genius suggested and assisted in the establishment of the School originally, wrote us in most enthusiastic appreciation and commendation, lauding the editor in the highest terms.

The Child-Study movement interested me from the first and I talked on the subject in many parts of the State, awakening teachers and parents to its importance and possibilities and stimulating discussion and organization for its extension. A Child Study Section was organized in the State Teachers Association which aroused much interest, especially among lower grade teachers, superintendents, principals, physicians and mothers. Many appeals came to me to write a book on the subject, for as yet there was little available printed matter aside from that in the magazines that could enlighten teachers on the subject. I said that I had not made a scientific study

of the problems involved and could not attempt it. Among those most urgent for me to prepare it were Mr. and Mrs. O. P. Barnes of Leavenworth. The former as the representative of Ginn & Co. replied that a strictly scientific treatise was not demanded, but one which the average teacher and parent could understand, a semi-popular introduction to the theme along the lines of my addresses. He also stated that his firm would be glad to publish the volume for me. Mrs. Barnes said that my talk to the teachers of Leavenworth had resulted in awakening investigations which were already bearing much fruit, mentioning particularly the case of her own young daughter. She said that anyone who could do that for one city ought to be able to write a helpful book for general circulation in all.

At last I began to take the matter seriously, and in my next Summer vacation while moping about at home with a low malarial fever suddenly said to myself: "Here I have been dreaming about an elementary psychology for teachers for years and have been filing notes for use in it some day. A book on Child Study should be practically an elementary treatise on genetic psychology", and in a few minutes the outline of a volume had fairly developed in my mind. Mr. Barnes had suggested that the State Teachers' Reading Circle would hail such a book for adoption at its February meeting and that the MSS. ought to be ready for submission to its members early in January. That would give me about twenty weeks for the twenty contemplated chapters.

Tho I knew my regular work in the Normal would be very exacting, I decided to undertake it at odd hours. It took me some little time to get the swing, but when it came I reeled off a chapter each week with surprising ease and without the necessity of consulting my notes half a dozen times all told. I probably spent less than ten hours in consulting authorities, and that was largely for the purpose of verifying data which I wished to use; all of which shows how fully I had assimilated the materials I had been gathering for years for the other book and how completely I had become absorbed in the investigations of the problems of the child.

Mr. Barnes asked me to go before the Reading Circle Board and exploit the book and as I was awaiting its call in an adjoining room, one of the members came out, stating that they had decided to adopt it, provided I would publish it myself. I told him that I could not do it but that Ginn & Co. would do so. He replied that they had the contract for the year just ending and that it had definitely decided not to give it to them again for that year. He further stated that

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they had already agreed to give the contract for the companion book to D. Appleton & Co.; that it would be a saving to the board if both books could be furnished by them and asked that I see their representative about publishing mine.

Appleton's agent said that he could not promise that the book would go into the International Educational Series, for its editor, Dr. W. T. Harris, U. S. Commissioner of Education, had stipulated that he have the utmost freedom in making it up. Imagine my pleasure when I received a note from him a fortnight later stating that he had practically decided to give it a place there tho he wanted a little further reading. In a few days the first batch of MSS. came back with the doctor's annotations and suggestions. I was greatly surprised that they were not more numerous, for I had been told that he was a merciless critic, taking much liberty with author's views as well as with sentential construction. I was glad to make the few changes asked and grateful that nothing material was requested, for a friend had told me that he would never approve my chapter on the Will without fundamental modifications. In his introduction to the volume he calls it "A sane and wholesome treatment of the subject," and skillfully paved the way for the discussion to follow.

It was published early in 1898 and was received with great cordiality by the profession and I was overcome by the responses from all directions. In less than a month after its publication, the retiring Minister of Elementary Education for Chili translated it into Spanish for use in the Spanish-American Republics and later Professor Saito of one of the Japanese National Normal Schools translated it into Japanese. The latter wrote me a very appreciative letter a few years afterwards stating that it had been invaluable in extending the vision and dignifying the work of the teacher among his country-men. A later enquiry by the Editor of the New York School Journal, asking leading teachers in South America to name the book that in the two or three years preceding had made the greatest impression on the profession in their respective countries, brought responses naming *The Study of the Child* in a great majority of cases, and in practically every one of a large number from Argentina. The title given was *Estudo del Nino*.

The book was soon adopted by the State Teachers' Reading Circles of Iowa, Missouri, Illinois, New York and elsewhere in addition to Kansas. It was not long in reaching a circulation of nearly 30,000 copies and is still in some demand. The good that it has done is a far more acceptable reward than the neat little royalty following.

In connection with the revised course of study for the county institutes mentioned elsewhere, State Superintendent Edmund Stanley and I prepared a little companion volume called "Apple Blossoms" for the purpose of illustrating apperception and correlation then at the front and supplying a variety of ready material for the class room.

For the purpose of economizing in our advertising and keeping in touch with absent and prospective students I early began the issue of the State Normal Quarterly, followed later by the Monthly for whose business management I employed Prof. W. C. Stevenson of the Commercial Department. It was a valuable adjunct to publicity and contained much helpful information for teachers. For some time I ran a column or two under the heading "Among Ourselves or A Superintendent with his Friends at the Round Table," which I later bound loosely for distribution to my classes in pedagogy as a text for free discussion week on the practical side of the subject. It aroused so much interest that I yielded to requests for its publication and E. L. Kellogg & Co. put it out in 1900 in their Reading Circle Library. It brought many favorable comments and gave me a warm place in the hearts of teachers of all grades. Equally as gratifying was the almost immediate offer of the head editorship of a series of weekly and monthly educational periodicals with a combined circulation of 300,000, by one of the best known houses in the East, prompted, the writer said, by its rare spirit and tactful method. Tho sorely tempted I was not then ready to leave my work at Emporia. In 1912, my old friend, O. P. Barnes of Chicago, purchased the plates and issued the book in a new dress with a few handsome illustrations and a preliminary article by me,—“An Appreciation of the Kansas Schoolmaster.”

In the same year, 1900, Judge L. B. Kellogg, first President of the State Normal School and Ex-Attorney General of Kansas and I prepared a popular text on the Government of the State and Nation, the particular State being Kansas for whose schools it was designed. It was published by D. C. Heath & Co. of Boston and at once adopted by the State Text Book Commission under a five-year contract. Over seventy thousand copies were sold, when with a change in the membership of the Commission, it was replaced by another, tho financially we had been well paid for our labor.

Just relieved from the pressure of all this outside work, I hesitated to accept an invitation to prepare a very elaborate and comprehensive article on pedagogy for the two-volume "New Students Reference Work for the Use of Students,

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Teachers and Families," soon to be issued by the C. B. Beach & Company, New York and Chicago. As I was moving to Decatur in July 1901, I thought perhaps it might be wise to undertake it. After blocking it out, I secured the assistance of a few of the members of my Kansas faculty in their specialties and have ever taken much pride in the result as the climax of my strictly pedagogical publications while at the State Normal School.

The Populist uprising in Kansas was the most sensational and significant movement in civic affairs during my administration. Tho at first a purely rural secret organization for the avowed purpose of studying economic problems along with others affecting the welfare of agricultural communities and with a clause in its constitution forbidding the discussion of partisan politics at its meetings. Nevertheless, as soon as it practically included every school district in Kansas, it proceeded to organize a political party and at the very first State election converted a Republican majority of 82,000 to a Populist majority of over 15,000. This was made possible by an auxiliary organization known as the Citizens Alliance, composed of citizens of the towns and cities following other than rival occupations.

Strong pressure was brought upon me during that hot political campaign by a Republican committee to permit a Republican club to be organized at the State Normal School. This was against the rule prohibiting political clubs there because I found that they were engendering undesirable animosity and occupying entirely too much of the students' time even in class hours. Stress was laid upon the statement that the Populists were opposed to education and that they would disrupt the State Educational institutions. Tho a Republican myself I declined to consent, insisting that public institutions should be strictly non-partisan in their management, tho the faculty and students in their private relations should be encouraged to take an active interest in political affairs and I publicly advised them to join such clubs in the city if they so desired. I also said to the committee that as the Populist party was composed almost exclusively of men educated in our public schools I did not fear any such overturning of our long cherished institutions as predicted.

The first Populist legislature, however, reduced salaries and made such changes in the administration of our finances that we lost some of our best teachers. The faculties of the State University and State Agricultural College were even more seriously affected, the Chancellor and President respectively being asked to resign by the new boards of Regents.

Other changes were made in their faculties so as to insure the propagation of the economic and political principles of the party platform. In my first conference with Governor Lewelling in 1893 he assured me that, while many changes in other classes of institutions would be made, he would tolerate none in the educational work for mere political reasons. Some of my friends were anxious about the presidency of the State Normal School but his appointees on the board soon became my warm personal friends and as ardent for my policies as others had been.

A most distressful situation occurred with the assembling of the legislature in 1893. The Senate was strongly Populist, but the face of the returns showed one Republican majority in the house counting an independent Republican elected largely by Populist votes. The Populists claimed that he was under obligations to vote with them in the organization of the House as well as on their pet legislative bills, which he had agreed to support and, claiming that they had been tricked, proceeded at once to organize the House on the roll made up by the retiring Secretary of State excluding from voting several Republicans against whose seats Populist contestants appeared. The Republicans, having certificates making one majority, also organized amid much confusion, which continued for a few days as the two Speakers endeavored to conduct the business of the rival organizations in the House chamber.

One night the Populists stole a march on the Republicans and when the latter appeared the next morning found themselves locked out with Populist sergeants-at-arms in force guarding all the doors and excluding all but the faithful. An appeal to the Governor received no response and next day while the Populist representatives were out at luncheon, the hall being in charge of the sergeants-at-arms, the Republican House marched up to the big doors and demanded admittance. Being refused, Speaker Douglass broke down the doors with a sledge and all rushed in, ejecting the opposition guards and installing their own. They also swore in a large number of sergeants and guarded every accessible avenue. Thus the Populists were neatly beaten at their own game.

They then made a formal demand for admittance and being refused also appealed to the Governor. He ordered out the militia for the purpose of keeping the peace but did not attempt to oust the Republican House. The Topeka chief of police swore in an additional force of men and stationed them about the capital grounds for the same purpose. The situation was exceedingly tense and a large number of Republicans

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were rushed in on the night trains and sworn in as sergeants-at-arms, the House end of the capital being surrounded with armed men and the chamber itself being strongly barricaded.

The whole State was soon in wild excitement and all sorts of sensational rumors filled the air. Partisan feeling reminded one of that following the attack on Ft. Sumter. Telegrams and letters poured into Topeka offering assistance to the belligerents in the maintenance of their rights and internecine war seemed imminent at any moment. The Republicans had wisely laid in a stock of provisions and each day received other rations thru outside friends, thus avoiding capture and maintaining their legal quorum. Having already been recognized by the Governor and the Senate, the Populist House fitted up a large room in the north wing basement of the State Capitol building and proceeded quietly with its business. The Republican House also went on with its business and appealed to the Supreme Court for an injunction against its rival. A tacit truce followed, tho neither side failed to protect itself against a surprise from the other.

We were almost suffocating at the Normal School for want of room and were very solicitous about our appropriations, particularly the item of \$50,000 for a new wing and a new assembly room. It was therefore essential that we keep on good terms with all factions and avoid offending the leaders. The Populist House held its sessions with closed doors, no one without proper credentials being admitted. Tho free to come and go in the Senate and in the Republican House, I was advised not to attempt entering the other one, so I sent Professor J. H. Hill, probably the mildest mannered and most diplomatic member of our faculty, who was supposed to be an independent in politics and to have voted the Populist ticket, to keep in touch with affairs there. He did the work well and our interests had kindly consideration as far as they advanced. It afterwards developed however, that Professor Hill had voted the Republican ticket and that Professor Wilkinson, a senior instructor and also a good diplomat, who was not sent because he was supposed to be a simon-pure Republican, had in reality voted about all the Populist ticket.

Forty of the sixty days, the constitutional limit of the session, had expired and the House muddle was still on with no prospect of a compromise thru the committees considering it. Legislative matters of vital importance, including all appropriation bills were making little or no progress. In my conferences with many members of both Houses I had become convinced of the honest desire of the rank and file among them to come together in a friendly spirit and adjust their differ-

ences, some of them having told me that "if the leaders would just get out of the way we could settle our differences very quickly." I also had become convinced of the personal friendship and confidence of so many of them that I decided to propose a plan of my own for the solution of the problem.

In brief it was, that until the Supreme Court announce its long delayed decision, the two Houses should meet together, their Speakers presiding on alternate days and their different committees sitting together in considering all bills; that no bills should be passed beyond the second reading by such joint House, but that immediately upon action by the Supreme Court all parties would quietly acquiesce and recognize the authority of the House declared by it to be legal.

I submitted it to our representative D. W. Eastman, and to Hon. William Martindale, a recognized Republican leader and also to John Watson, a pillar in the Populist party in Lyon County, all of whom approved it heartily and agreed to go with me to Topeka on the noon train to present it to the caucuses of the two parties that evening. I remained at my room at the hotel, the others going to their caucuses for that purpose. About midnight Mr. Eastman came in and reported that it would undoubtedly carry in the Republican caucus by a good majority the next night if there was a prospect of its doing so in the other caucus; that few opposed it; two or three insisting that there was a nigger in it somewhere, one declaring that it was undoubtedly written by Governor Lewelling or some other astute politician. He replied in the negative to this charge, however, merely saying that it was submitted by a Republican whose integrity and purpose would not be questioned by any of them.

Mr. Watson soon came in, but he had met with strong opposition from the bell-wethers, most of whom, he said, feared that they might lose their positions and salaries by it. He found that some one had sent a wire from Emporia warning them to be on their guard against the wiles of a trio who were en route for Topeka, and that therefore he was greatly handicapped in his mission of peace. It developed in his conferences that some radicals had determined not to acquiesce in the court's decision if against them. On the other hand, it also developed that in such a contingency the Republicans had decided to enforce the court's mandate if necessary by force of arms. This meant war and I resolved to try another plan.

The Rev. Pearse Pinch was pastor of the First Congregational Church at Emporia at that time and as the Governor had been a member of his church at Wichita, I felt that he might have some influence with him. I proposed to him that

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he go to the Governor and make him acquainted with the tenseness of the underlying feeling as I had found it and the imminent danger of civil war, should he refuse to recognize the authority of the supreme court. While assuring me of the intimate friendship between them, he doubted his ability to accomplish anything. In response to my urging he at last said that if I felt it was his duty he would go on the morning train and make the appeal which I suggested.

The Governor received him most cordially and encouraged him to speak with the utmost frankness. In response, he said that under all the circumstances he could not have acted otherwise than he had done and was greatly pleased that there had been no bloodshed in the heated condition of the affairs in the capital and that he had fully made up his mind to be governed by the decision of the Court when rendered. He then asked Mr. Pinch to call on his wife and daughters at his hotel as they had been practically ostracised by the good people of the city during the unpleasantness. He did so and spent a most delightful hour with them. In making his report to me he seemed as much pleased that I had urged him to go as I was with the result. The Court soon rendered its decision in favor of the Republican House, and the war cloud vanished.

Our appropriation bills, including that one for our new wing, were passed by an almost unanimous vote, tho a few disgruntled Populists tried to defeat the wing because I would not expel the few Normal boys, who had been called up at midnight and rushed to Topeka to serve as sergeants-at-arms for the Republicans. To one representative who threatened me that unless it was done he would vote against it, I replied that as not one of the hundreds in both parties who had been shaking their fists up there and brandishing their revolvers in each others faces had been or would be punished, it would be unreasonable to punish those impulsive young fellows simply because we had the power and that I would have none of it.

The annual income of the State Normal School for 1882-3 was but \$14,925 of which \$9,000 met the salary schedule. Both had become more than double in 1889 not including the legislative appropriations for improvement and equipment. The legislature of 1901 more than quadrupled its appropriations of the earlier nineties excluding a sixty thousand provision for a new library building, all of which came without the usual personal lobbying—evidence of the standing of the School at that time.

Early in the nineties, I led in organizing the Current Club in the city, W. A. White being our first president. It was

composed of some choice spirits and met at the homes of the members, and continues to be an influential factor in the city's forward-looking life.

On invitation of the officers of the Pertle Springs, Mo., Encampment, I delivered a course of lectures there on the Sunday-School in several summer vacations in the later eighties which furnished a fine outing for myself and my little family, making us many new friends and bringing us in touch again with scores of former ones whose fellowship we greatly enjoyed. The outlines for those lectures became the frame work for the "Church at Work in the Sunday School" mentioned elsewhere. At that time the Missouri Valley College was organizing, and I was asked to accept the presidency. It did not seem wise to do so, tho I deeply appreciated the proffer. In the next fifteen years I was approached by representatives of several of our church and other colleges with similar propositions. The best state normal schools in Wisconsin and Minnesota did me that honor. To all of these kind people I made the one reply, that while there might be good reasons for going, I saw none for leaving, for my work at Emporia did not seem then to be finished.

With the founding of The James Millikin University at Decatur in 1901 however, a call came that gave me very serious concern. Being under the supervision of the synods of my church in Indiana, Illinois, and Iowa, in whose bounds so many hundreds of my former students lived and held responsible positions, and offering such a great opportunity for the establishment of a modern institution of learning on a comprehensive basis, it was attractive beyond almost anything else which had ever opened to me. Dr. W. J. Darby of the Commission entrusted with the responsibility of selecting a president, assured me that the synods were unanimous in their desire for me to organize and develop it. His letters and personal appeals were seconded by many others and in February, 1901, I made a visit to Decatur for the purpose of informing myself as fully as possible concerning local conditions, local sentiment, and the feasibility of building up a college of the character proposed.

Mr. I. R. Mills, whose guest I was, invited a score of leading business and professional men to a dinner in his spacious home which gave me an introduction to the kind of men I could depend upon in the undertaking. Later in the evening I met perhaps seventy-five more in the Decatur Club rooms, who spoke enthusiastically and hopefully of the enterprise. Dr. Darby and Mr. J. T. Foster, president of the Board of Trustees of Lincoln University, among others from outside,

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made stirring addresses. I outlined my conception of the institution which I believed could be successfully established and the benefits which would inure to Decatur. Tho my reception was most cordial and my confidence in the outcome well grounded, I hesitated to commit myself to acceptance, for we were just coming into our own in Kansas and no other state normal school in the country had a better standing or a more promising future. On our way to Lincoln the next morning, I urged Dr. Darby to excuse me and accept it himself. For various reasons, he said it was impossible, his health and lack of experience being prohibitive. At a conference that afternoon and evening, the situation clarified somewhat and my friend Foster deplored any further hesitation on my part.

As Mr. Millikin was absent when I visited Decatur, I decided to interview him personally. I found him clearly pleased with the choice of the Commission and prepared to contribute his surplus income and that of his estate in perpetuity for the maintenance of the college. We came to an understanding on the ideals he hoped to realize in the founding of the school and his expectations for its management. He said that I would fulfill them, if in five or six years our standards ranked us well among the best colleges in the Mississippi valley and we enrolled 500 or 600 students; that he wanted it to be unsectarian in its internal management and commending itself to all classes of people. We discussed problems of management in which he stated that he supposed I knew my business and that he wished me to have the fullest liberty in the conduct of the affairs of the institution; that he favored liberal salaries for responsible heads of departments, citing his own policy in the management of his bank, and naming the approximate income from his estate upon which I could depend. He took me into his confidence and explained the provisions of his will and his plan for the management of his estate thru five trustees whom he named to me. In a further conference with some mutually intimate friends, I was assured that he had been very modest in the statement of his income and that his word was as good as his bond. Before leaving Decatur, the committee to select a president, Dr. Darby, Mr. Foster, and Mr. J. K. McDavid, representing respectively the Board of Trustees of the University and the two Boards of Managers, made me a formal tender of the office at a salary of five thousand dollars.

I promised an early response and went directly to Hayes City, Kansas, for a meeting of our Regents to examine the military reservation there which Congress and the state legis-

lature had set apart for an Auxiliary State Normal School and an experiment station for the State Agricultural College. I had informed them of my conferences with the Illinois authorities and now gave them the result of my last trip. They protested vigorously against my going and immediately advanced my salary one thousand dollars saying that if more would retain me they would like to know it. I thanked them heartily and told them that I must finally decide the question on other grounds. The newspapers now exploited the offer and I was soon greatly embarrassed by many letters from our church people and others urging acceptance of the Millikin position, and from the Normal Alumni generally together with educational friends and others in Kansas, urging with equal ardor that I remain at Emporia.

Duty's call to Illinois, however, seemed so clear that when the Regents assembled for their commencement week session, I very reluctantly handed in my resignation and wired acceptance of the Decatur offer. As I came into the outer office rooms, I found some of my associates in tears and so many others met me in like manner that I felt almost like a criminal. Congratulations and expressions of pleasure from the East and protests and regrets from all directions in the West, kept me busy answering them for nearly a month. All of them breathed affection and confidence at once so surprising and gratifying that I longed to divide my personality and serve both institutions; indeed, the Regents proposed to me to continue at Emporia directing affairs for a year and giving such time to Decatur as might be needed for the preliminary work of erecting buildings and securing a faculty. The suggestion had additional force because of our delightful associations with the good people of Emporia, who had all these years been our faithful and devoted friends, but it did not seem feasible in view of the eagerness of the Illinois people to inaugurate the work there with as little delay as possible.

That commencement week was the crowning event of my administration, tho everything in it had a tinge of sadness, which however, has perhaps made it more precious in our memory. The graduating class, the alumni, the regents and faculty adopted complimentary resolutions and kind words came to us on every opportune occasion. The Regents had assured me that they did not wish any change in the policy of the School and asked my advice about a successor. Logically there was but one man to name and that was my vice president, Professor J. N. Wilkinson, who had for sixteen years been my confidential adviser and unwavering friend. He was unanimously appointed and he and I were named as a com-

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mittee to select instructors to fill vacancies occurring and new chairs needed. We were extremely fortunate in our choices, for those secured by us immediately became forceful factors in working out the larger problems which the liberal appropriations of the last legislature now made possible.

The more friendly relations with the non-state colleges resulting from the State Board of Education legislation heretofore mentioned, and the co-operation for higher standards now so marked made it increasingly easy each session for us to secure needed appropriations for equipment and instructors. Lobbying to protect our interests and secure necessary funds for so large and rapidly growing an institution had always been distasteful to me for I had in the earlier years so often come out of those strenuous campaigns utterly exhausted, that I was exceedingly grateful for the change. Nothing could illustrate better how fully we were coming into our own than this brief story:

In my report to the Regents in 1900 I asked for \$75,000 for a new library building and about \$100,000 for the next biennium for repairs and current expenses. Governor Stanley invited us to meet him and the Secretary of State in his office to discuss the estimates. He stated that he was opposed to heads of state institutions spending their time in Topeka lobbying for their bills; that the constitution made it obligatory upon him and the Secretary of State to use their judgment in recommending appropriations for their support; and that they would take the responsibility of getting them thru that time. That sounded good, but so good that I was very skeptical of its feasibility. He said that if the committees sent for us, of course we must respond, but that he had sufficient faith in the new legislature to believe that it would respect their recommendations. They spent some hours in going over the items, hearing our reasons for them and comparing them with those of other educational institutions, finally announcing that they would reduce the library estimate to \$60,000, advance a few smaller items to insure a little margin and make the total including the library about \$150,000. To my great satisfaction, it proved unnecessary for me to appear before the ways and means committee of either house to justify a single item or to seek the support of a single legislator, so cordial was their attitude towards us. It was almost a millennial situation and made it additionally difficult for me to listen to the call elsewhere.

All of the governors had been very kind to us, showing deep interest in the School and in me personally, but my relations with Governor Stanley were more intimate than with

any preceding him. When I went to his office to bid him farewell just before leaving for the East, he strongly emphasized his regret and as he took my arm and walked to the lobby with me said: "Somehow or other, I have always been able to get nearer to you than to the head of any other State institution."

During those nineteen years, I met perhaps a thousand state officers including legislators personally, many of them in the interest of other than purely educational affairs and with very few exceptions found them honorable, affable gentlemen, considerably above the proportion one usually finds in mingling with a similar number of men in other walks of life. No one of them, however unsavory a reputation Dame Rumor had given him, ever intimated that his assistance could be secured for a consideration or that he expected remuneration for his service.

I wish here to record my warm appreciation of the members of the State Board of Education with whom it was my privilege to be associated intimately as an ex-officio member, in the handling of the many important educational and administrative problems which came before it. Some of them were such rare spirits that they live with me yet in ever increasing uplift and fellowship. Among the earlier ones, I must take space to mention President George T. Fairchild of the State Agricultural College, that cultured, genial spirit who lived on too high a plane to be selfish; Chancellor Marvin of the State University, and that sterling, high-minded, generous hearted man who succeeded him, Chancellor Lippincott. All of them have gone to their reward and their works do follow them.

The State Superintendents were kindly disposed toward the Normal School and its ideals and aided us very materially with kindly counsel and cooperation. Mr. H. C. Speer, in office as I located at Emporia, was a progressive, far-seeing scholar with high educational ideals and was very helpful as adviser and friend. His entrance into other business was a distinct loss to the State. I acknowledge with pleasure my personal obligations.

Commencement over, I had a little time to read the complimentary newspaper mentions of my departure and the friendly tributes to my services to the School and the State. The catalog showed a total attendance of 2,135, for the year. The summer school now opening with an enrollment of 600, required much attention, tho I was allowed sufficient time to get my official house in order to turn over to my successor on June 30. A day or two before, as we were engaged in our last general chapel exercise, I heard voices in the stairway

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entering the hall to the right and soon a hundred or more little people from the model school below marched in across the rostrum front and began bombarding me with flowers. Somebody slipped Mrs. Taylor and our two daughters out to my side from the rear and at a signal from the chorister, the whole great company rose with flowers in their hands and marched around the hall and down in front, literally covering us with the fragrant love tokens and affectionate demonstrations. How could I do aught but smile and throw kisses to them and stammer out heartfelt thanks from me and mine? Then followed formal expressions of appreciation and good wishes for happy days and successful results at Decatur, to all of which I responded announcing it as my graduating address and pledging abiding loyalty to it, my second alma mater, and to my Kansas friends generally.

The first graduating classes at Emporia had continued the custom of making a handsome present to the president of the institution, but I soon asked them to discontinue it and give something worth while to the school instead.

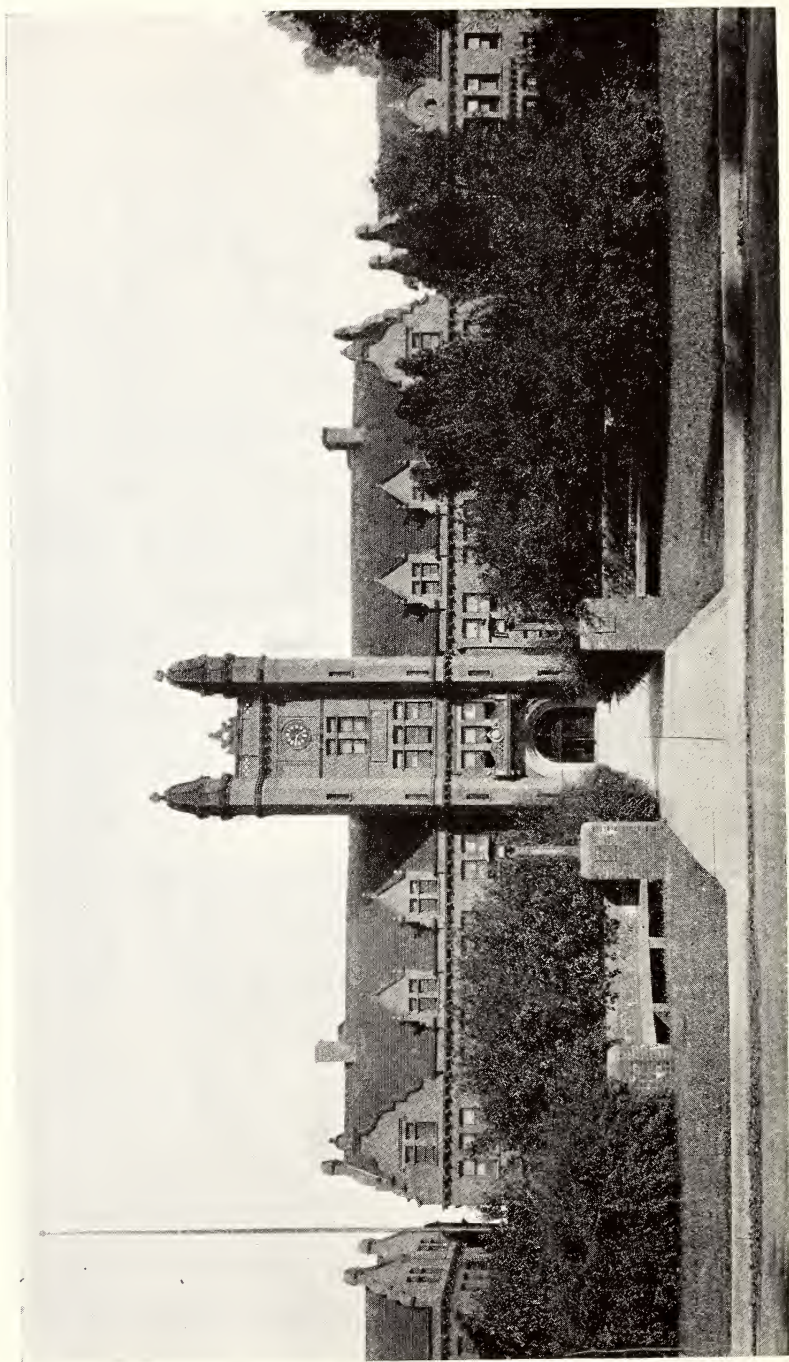
Little material tokens would come along occasionally anyhow from some of them, and on June 18, 1888 at the last assembly mass meeting for the year, the platform being filled with visitors, a handsome man approached with a smiling salaam and in a spicy speech presented me with a fine Howard watch inscribed as from the "Regents, Faculty, Alumni and Students of the K. S. N." As I stood smiling at it in my hand, helpless for words, my old Illinois State Normal University instructor, first principal of K. S. N. broke the spell by crying out, "What time is it, Mr. President?" I had to acknowledge myself outwitted, but assured them that I was like the old darkey bride-groom "pufectly willin'"; that I had often said that when I became rich, I would buy me a gold watch; that with that beautiful time piece came a supreme satisfaction that I was already rich,—rich in friends!

Another peculiar "evasion" came later, in the full length oil portrait of myself which the class of 1898 placed in the library. One which I also prize greatly was a beautiful set of Eugene Field's works, who was a classmate of mine in Knox College, given me on my fiftieth anniversary by the class of 1897. Each graduating class for many years, remembered me with its class ring or pin, some of which are of rare design and make up a choice box of real jewels. On my appearance at the Alumni reunion at the holiday meeting of the State Teachers' Association at Topeka in 1901, President Wilkinson motioned for silence and then said that my sudden decision to leave Kansas at the previous commencement had

precluded general action of the Alumni to present me with a suitable token of their esteem, but that they were now taking advantage of my presence to do so. Then unveiling a most beautiful white marble plaque with a chaste full-relief of "Sunshine" by Wm. Couper, Florence, as the embodiment of the good will to me and mine radiating from thousands of Kansas Alumni, he begged its acceptance with continued assurance of their friendship and interest.

They did not allow us to forget them even with this exquisite token, for felicitous telegrams and greetings followed us at Millikin as the inaugurating events occurred, and a year does not yet pass but that we have many love letters from far and near that keep our memory green and add to the accumulating riches of our mellowing years.

I would be untrue to myself if I close this chapter without expressing the life-long appreciation of myself and my family to the good people of Emporia for their kind personal interest in us and their sympathetic cooperation in building up and maintaining one of the best equipped and forward-looking teacher's training institutions in this country. The revolving years but deepen an affection born in such an atmosphere and nurtured in such a fellowship.



THE JAMES MILLIKIN UNIVERSITY, DECATUR COLLEGE MAIN GROUP

Part IV

The James Millikin University 1901-1913

Disposing of our residence at some sacrifice to President Wilkinson, I came on to Decatur, reporting for duty on July 1. Under the wing of my friend and cousin, Isaac R. Mills, President of the Board of Managers, a couple of surreys carried me, along with Mr. Millikin and a majority of the board members to inspect the various sites offered for the home of the college, nearly half a dozen in all. During the day, I became quite well acquainted with Mr. Millikin and discovered that he was peeved a little about something.

We were all entertained at dinner in the evening at the home of Mr. T. T. Roberts, Dr. W. H. Penhallegon being my right hand table-mate, with whom I exchanged views on the outlook and policy of the enterprise. I was most pleasantly impressed with the personnel of the men who were to be my counsellors, especially with their good sense and enthusiasm. The day had been insufferably hot and the evening was scarcely less so, but we forgot the heat in our after-dinner talk on the veranda.

There I learned the reason for the mood which I had fathomed in Mr. Millikin. Mr. Roberts called attention to the fact that the board was not yet ready to decide on a site, for Mr. Millikin's promised donation was not available until the subscriptions and notes from the city and the church had been collected or at least had been approved by a designated committee and accepted by him; that my arrival there in accordance with the agreement with the appointment committee was premature and that all further constructive activities should await such acceptance and transference. There was unanimous acquiescence in the suggestion with the assurance that I would find plenty to do in the interim. The revelation disturbed me not a little, but I was much pleased to find that I was working with men who would co-operate

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with me in conducting the affairs of the college in a business-like way, which was no slight discovery for my first day.

The action of the board, the prospect of delay in opening the new institution, and the possibility of losing it altogether after so much labor had been expended, stirred up all the parties interested and thus the climax which my arrival produced proved to be most fortunate. The committees completed their work in a short time, and no further delay was necessary.

Thru the courtesy of Dr. A. W. Hawkins, the indefatigable financial agent whose faith and enthusiasm along with that of his able yoke-fellow, Dr. W. J. Darby, had successfully conducted the church campaign for the amount required to meet Mr. Millikin's proposition, I found an attractive suite of rooms for my family in the spacious and hospitable home of Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Baker, where we lived for two years. I have always regarded this as another of the many good fortunes blessing our lives.

The Board of Managers had anticipated my arrival in renting and partly furnishing a couple of rooms in the Millikin building for its headquarters. The by-laws for its government had already been tentatively adopted and the various committees appointed. They provided that the presidents of the board and of the college should be *ex officio* members of all committees. The Secretary, Mr. S. E. Walker, Asst. Cashier of the Millikin Bank, and I were appointed to devise a scheme for keeping accounts and making reports which after approval by the Treasurer, Mr. O. B. Gorin, was adopted and inaugurated.

About August first, I returned to Kansas and brought Mrs. Taylor and daughter Kittie, to Decatur and a few weeks later we in company with Mr. and Mrs. Millikin, and Mr. Peter Loeb, chairman of the building committee, spent some days at the Pan-American Exposition at Buffalo. After this we gentlemen and Mrs. Millikin went to Ithaca, New York, to inspect the buildings of Cornell University with a view of formulating plans for the construction of our new buildings. Mrs. Millikin then returned to Decatur, and the rest of us spent nearly three weeks in visiting the leading institutions of the eastern states for the same purpose, Mr. Millikin and I spending many odd hours in discussing the scope and character of the organization contemplated. While the other two saw many things that pleased them, they gathered more light from the visit to Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, than from any other institution. The material in the construction of the library and museum of the University of Pennsylvania greatly in-

fluenced our choice of the brick and stone for our buildings, which our friends declare grow more beautiful every year.

In accordance with Mr. Millikin's expressed preference, the board selected Messrs. Patton and Miller of Chicago as its architects. After much delay, prolonged by an effort to have Mr. Millikin express his preference among the sites offered, word came indirectly thru Mrs. Millikin that he really preferred Oakland Park and it was unanimously chosen. Mr. Loeb and I were appointed a committee to notify him, and we were convinced of his gratification over it, for tho again avowing his wish that the board should make its own choice, he immediately began to suggest locations for buildings and plans for laying it out. He had bought the park many years before and had often said that he hoped to erect a college on it some day. The Anna B. Millikin Home for Old Women, so named in honor of his wife, was just across Oakland avenue from it, so the realization of his college dream and the centralization of his benefactions along that avenue very naturally pleased him. The board had anticipated the decision by making conditional contracts for the tracts adjoining on the West and North so as to make a total of nearly 35 acres for the campus. It being somewhat rolling and largely covered with fine forest trees is unusually beautiful and attractive.

That the architects might work intelligently, it was first necessary that the general outline of the college organization should be formulated and approved. Having made a careful review and study of the demands of our possible clientage and the courses offered by our immediate competitors, I was not long in deciding upon its main features. They embraced eight schools,—liberal arts, commerce and finance, engineering, domestic economy, fine and applied arts, pedagogy, library science and music in the college and corresponding preparatory courses in the academy,—all four years in length with the standard requirements for admittance to each. I submitted the details to Mr. Millikin, and they received his warm approval, tho he said he had hoped that a school of agriculture might be included. He yielded it readily as I explained that our prospective income would be insufficient, tho I had tentatively risked offering a brief course in horticulture. The outline was promptly approved by the Board and its publication in the city papers brought forth many expressions of commendation from the citizens generally, tho some feared it rather pretentious. The truth is that many of them had very limited conceptions of the growing demands for a college of the modern type and did not hesitate to caution Mr. Millikin about

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encouraging any visionary plans, both as to the scope of the curriculum and the size of the proposed plant.

I spent much time with the architects in selecting the most appropriate style of architecture for the location which we had chosen. The Elizabethan offered the best solution of our problem, and I recommended it to our patrons and to the board who at once expressed their satisfaction and instructed us to proceed with details. I worked up the floor plans tentatively with occasional conferences and amendments, and a beautiful water color draft of the first group of three buildings was submitted, receiving enthusiastic endorsement from all parties. Mrs. Millikin advised the elimination of a few extra frills over some of the bay and dormer windows which was quickly agreed to.

Almost equal unanimity was given to the preliminary plans for the power house and gymnasium, the architects having assured us that our funds would enable us to construct the five. They later stated that we insisted upon better buildings than they had first thought we wished, and that the cost of construction had advanced so rapidly in the interim that the gymnasium must be omitted for the time being.

The bids for the construction of the first four named were disappointingly high, but I recommended certain combination bids, which the specifications allowed, and thus reduced the total many thousand dollars, making their acceptance possible. The selection of the brown and red mottled vitrified brick for the outside walls, which we secured at a great bargain, emphasized the wisdom of our choice for the buildings to be erected in the future.

To the chairman of the building committee, Mr. Loeb, and myself the supervision of the construction of the entire plant was entrusted. We were frequently in counsel with the other members of the board especially of the building committee, and, tho occasionally at variance with our contractors, succeeded in securing buildings whose excellency and beauty are their own commendation. To include the expressions of admiration and appreciation from artists, architects, college authorities, and other good judges who have visited them, would require several pages. We were greatly gratified to have Mr. and Mrs. Millikin say that in all their travels they had never seen a group of college buildings whose architectural design pleased them so much.

An immense company gathered to witness the laying of the corner stone by the Masonic Fraternity, on June 12, 1902, the address being delivered by Dr. W. H. Penhallegon. Criticisms on the brick chosen by us had been made by some

of our friends, but as they saw the walls that day, they joined the throng in unstinted praise. Practically all the basement walls and buildings in Decatur and vicinity, built of that same "University" brick, have been erected since that day.

The contractor had bound himself to turn over the completed buildings by September 1, 1902, but unexpected delays in getting material along with Union labor interference prevented it, thus postponing the opening of the college another year.

In accord with our practice from the beginning, I submitted our plans for finishing the corridors and the main lobby to Mr. Millikin, who as he saw we were finishing the latter very modestly and inexpensively, said that he would advise marble instead, "for the first impressions made upon people entering the building would always govern those formed of the institution as a whole." Of course we quickly acquiesced, for he proposed to meet the extra expense himself.

One day Mr. Millikin called me into his office and asked how much money I would need for the equipment of the buildings, adding that he could spare me \$35,000 or \$40,000. I replied that my estimates for first year were within the former amount, which pleased him so much that he placed the limit at \$30,000. That, however, proved less than we finally needed, for our large enrollment of students demanded extensive duplications which could not be anticipated. His suggestions for purchasing it were in accordance with those always given by him,—“Buy the best you can afford, but not extravagantly.” This was supplemented by Mr. Loeb with “You expect your students to do good work,—then give them good tools.” Tho the time limit forced me to select most of the equipment myself, I asked the members of the faculty as far as appointed to make recommendations for their several departments, deferring such purchases as seemed advisable until the arrival of others or later.

Before the final decision to postpone the opening of the college for reasons heretofore mentioned, I had secured a few members of my faculty, all but two of whom could continue in their former positions, Doctor Galloway and Mrs. Machan being the exceptions. Satisfactory arrangements were made with them as to salary, and the latter served as my secretary, being invaluable in the advertising and other preliminary work. The former came on in the early Spring and relieved me greatly in developing the details of the curriculum and the general prospectus as well as in many other directions for which his experience especially fitted him. With the assistance of such competent help I was enabled to perfect our

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plans so that from the opening hour, there was practically no confusion or delay in organizing and putting at work one of the largest bodies of students ever assembled on the inauguration of an educational institution in this country.

The new buildings were dedicated on June 4, 1903, the dedicatory address being given by President Theodore Roosevelt in the presence of a vast throng of people that overflowed into the streets and avenues adjoining the park. It was a great holiday for Decatur and the surrounding country and the procession from the business part of the city, headed by the Goodman band, the most notable in its history. Prominent men from all walks of life, far and near, occupied the platform, several of whom took part in the program. The dedicatory prayer was made in the assembly room after the general exercises on the front campus, by the Rev. Dr. B. P. Fullerton of St. Louis.

The unique and comprehensive character of the college organization, the attractiveness of its campus and buildings, and the thousands of friends interested in its founding thru the campaigns for its endowment made its exploitation thru its prospectus and otherwise a comparatively easy matter. We utilized the public press, the nearly half thousand pastors in the three patronizing synods, a still larger number of personal friends and former students of mine at Lincoln University, many of whom had children of their own ready for the college, the four hundred traveling salesmen of Decatur as well as the citizens generally, in our efforts to reach and acquaint prospective students with the unusual facilities for securing the liberal education which we were offering. All of these were superbly supplemented and stimulated by the Decatur *Herald* and the *Review*, both of them generously throwing open their columns to exploit and promote the various features of the College by illustration and story in a most lavish way, which they have continued unreservedly thru the years. So thoroly had the work been done and the prospective students listed, that three weeks before the opening I was able to send them post cards stating that from 300 to 350 students would assuredly register the first day, perhaps more.

The Board of Managers appointed Mrs. Millikin, Mrs. Peter Loeb and Mrs. Taylor a committee to select the college colors. They recommended those of Commodore Decatur as the most appropriate as well as the most beautiful for the purpose. They are pure white and a rich navy blue. With the co-operation of Mrs. Dad Stearns, who originally suggested those colors, they presented two handsome duplicates of the flag used on the Commodore's flagship to the college,

which decorated the boxes on the opening day and still perform a similar service on state occasions. The very fine national flag belonging to the college was presented by Mr. John Ulrich and a few personal friends.

Other local friends vied with each other in contributing to the assembly room decorations for the inauguration exercises, which were made additionally attractive by the cordial assistance of a score of young women from the city who took delight in proffering their services for the occasion. It is needless to say that the great room was filled to the farthest gallery with students and friends, the platform being occupied by members of the various boards, the faculty, and interested parties from all directions. Mr. and Mrs. Millikin with intimate friends occupied their box on the left of the rostrum and Mrs. Taylor with guests of honor the President's box on the right.

Brief addresses were made by representatives of various educational interests, among them being my fast friend, President John W. Cook of the Northern State Normal School, and my devoted co-laborer, Mr. Isaac R. Mills, President of the Board of Managers. My inaugural address was a modest affair which received warm responses from the audience and from those in authority. In it, I thus set forth our platform:

"This college stands for higher planes of scholarship, for loftier ideals of manhood and womanhood, for the dignity of all labor, for the preservation and maintenance of the institutions which have been the bulwark of society and the crowning glory of our modern civilization. Its creed will be the common creed of the best minds and the best blood of the race; its mission to contribute as may be in its power to the promotion of all that is best and truest among men."

During the exercises, I had been studying the audience, particularly the solid rows of young men reaching around the gallery, with a view of discovering the approximate number of students present. Being satisfied that there were not less than four hundred, I ventured to ask them to stand. A spontaneous cheer almost rent the roof as one of the finest group of young men and women students I had ever seen faced me. Tellers from the platform counted them and while they were still standing, I turned to our patrons and said: "Mr. Millikin, when I had my closing conference with you previous to the acceptance of the presidency of this University, you told me that if we had five hundred students in five or six years and the college had a high standing among the educational institutions of the Mississippi valley, you would be satisfied. It gives me very great pleasure to introduce to

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you 562 young people who are here to enroll with us this morning." He rose and bowed to them with marked emotion and tears that showed his own joy. In passing out, he said to a friend: "It is now up to the faculty." That hour was the proudest of my life and repaid me many fold for the personal sacrifices and arduous labors of the preceding years.

At least sixty high schools and perhaps two score colleges were represented in the enrollment for the year, which totaled 712. Among the many interesting things developing as we organized our work was the fact that transfers from other colleges and high schools enabled us to form large classes in all the seven years from the first academy thru the junior college year, together with a senior class of several members. Candidates appeared for entrance to all of the schools in sufficient numbers to form workable classes and even in all the departments in which courses had been offered, except in horticulture, for which fortunately no special instructor had been employed. So quietly and promptly did all find their places that not an hour was lost in putting the machinery of instruction in motion.

Mr. Millikin had some friends in the city who supposedly had been to college and who were well assured that I was a dreamer and who induced him to believe that the buildings planned could not be occupied in long years to come, if ever. He had some figuring done by somebody and confided his growing fears to me, asking if we were not over-reaching ourselves. As the stakes were already driven and the excavations for the three in the main group well under way, I stood the next morning at the East end of it over four hundred feet away from the other, I confess that I asked myself seriously, "Am I a dreamer?" The hesitation was but for a moment however, for I had been over the field interested in us too often to concede that I was making a mistake. Then I recalled the fact that dreamers had made advancing civilization possible and tried to impart my confidence to my patron in which I at least partially succeeded.

Perhaps a fortnight before, Mr. Millikin had told Mr. Loeb and myself that he thought it would be wise to board up the corridors leading to the engineering building for he was certain we would not need it for a long time to come, but we were now forced to equip two or three times as many rooms for several departments as we had thought we might need for the first year. Originally the architects had not provided for finishing up the rooms in the two end attics, but the rapid increase in the attendance eventually forced us to finish and equip every available space there including the

fourth tower story above the basement. When the new Gymnasium and the Conservatory buildings were erected, the expansion of the different departments had become so great, that it was not easy to provide for their needs in the parts of the buildings thus vacated. Thus were my faith and my vision continually finding justification.

Equally justified was the choice of my faculty for with very few exceptions they proved capable, sympathetic colleagues in working out the problems confronting us from time to time. Tho they were educated in a score or more different institutions and had taught in even a greater number, they readily found common ground with me and with each other in the constructive work which the unique and advanced character of the new college demanded. Their varied acquaintance with the conduct of so many colleges of the better sort made them invaluable in council and helpful in formulating a sane and liberal policy for its management. The successful correlation and articulation of the different departments of instruction in the several schools in perfecting our curricula was no light task and its accomplishment not only a clear pedagogical gain, but also a distinct economic advantage, enabling us to maintain our comprehensive organization and offer a great variety of courses with an income far less than would otherwise have been required.

In the management of the two thousand students of the State Normal School of Kansas, I had attained some notoriety because with scarcely any rules except those of procedure, and reliance upon the good sense and integrity of the student body I had found little occasion for discipline. It now came to my ears, however, that one of my instructors had said that I would find that I could not run a college as I had run a normal school. I smiled at the information and stated that time would tell. At the first meeting of my committee on rules, I was surprised to discover a disposition to formulate regulations based upon the hypothesis of mutual antagonism between students and faculty. I explained that I would not care to run a college on such a theory. After some argument my policy was accepted, but with the parting shot from one of the committee that "the antagonism would be there just the same."

With such varying ideals and traditions of college life among the faculty and students coming to us then there was naturally much cause for watchfulness and some for discipline during the first year, as we were endeavoring to get into harmony with each other, tho the proportion of offenders was not large. The second year, the influence of the advanced

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college classes, who now appreciated our spirit and policy, made for better things generally. The third year conditions were almost ideal and the fourth, as our strong senior class with three years' acquaintance with us, swung into line, the vindication of our method was most gratifying. In all my career I seldom appealed to the rules, but rather to the innate good sense and the spirit of loyalty to ethical ideals in dealings with students as a whole or as individuals.

It is easy enough for anybody to suspend or expel a student or disgrace him in some other way, but I have a far different conception of my calling and its high privileges than to disregard the opportunity which thus comes to me for helping an erring youth to recover and make a better man out of himself. It is so easy for us to unduly magnify and wrongly interpret students' motives in the infractions of written or unwritten rules, that in their administration much injustice and permanent harm is done to many of them who could easily have been reached by a friendly personal word and induced to change their whole attitude towards life,—which after all is one of the vital objects of education. Seldom has a student been called to my office even for ever so serious an offense, who did not leave it with a consciousness of the fact that I was his friend and had his best interests at heart. Warm personal tributes from some of them who underwent severe discipline are among the rare heritages of my life, and yet they are trifles beside the pleasure given me in seeing them respected, useful men and women, leaders in the great movements for righteousness and for better living. It is thus that our works do follow us.

The plan for class adviser introduced by us at the State Normal School long before its adoption by the great institutions in the East was a strong factor also at Decatur in accomplishing the end just mentioned. The close fellowship thus brought about between students and faculty insures mutual co-operation seldom secured in any other way; indeed, intelligent personal interest in the former by the latter will practically eliminate necessity for discipline in higher institutions of learning generally.

There were of course many other things necessary to perfect the college machinery. Student enterprises, covering the intellectual, forensic, athletic, social, religious, and other special interests conducing to their general welfare and advancement, were established as quickly as seemed advisable and placed under sympathetic guidance when desirable. Mutual rivalry was encouraged in order to stimulate interest among the means used being valuable prizes offered by public

spirited citizens thru my solicitation, and before the close of the first year these activities were already playing an important part in the life of the college as a whole and strengthening the affection of the young men and women for their Alma Mater.

Tho I had not consented for the organization of secret societies at Emporia, I had now become convinced of their desirability under proper restrictions and their value as a contributory factor in a college scheme, and led the way for their establishment as petitions for the same were presented. The fraternity spirit craves fellowship of some kind among all classes of people, and they will have it in one way if not in another. Its proper cultivation as an essential part of an education and must not be overlooked. College fraternities have many problems yet to solve before they can accomplish their highest mission, but they are trying them out in so serious a manner that they are worthy our consideration and co-operation.

Realizing the necessity of providing funds in some way for helping to meet the expenses of promoting the athletic activities of the college and appreciating the value of a bookstore in the main building for the accommodation of the students, I proposed the establishment of the latter with authority on my part to appoint two competent advanced students to manage it wholly on their own financial responsibility,—yet under supervision to insure low prices and legitimate supplies. The board approved, the profits to be divided into three parts, the college to receive one for athletic purposes and each student one for his labor. It soon justified itself for, in addition to being a great convenience, it had the support of the students generally as it aided them materially in meeting athletic expenses. After it was well established the net profits per year for each party ranged from \$300 to \$400, thus almost meeting the necessary personal expenses of the deserving students entrusted with its management.

Profiting by former experience in managing the athletic association, I proposed a joint directorate of students and faculty, which I served as president for some years. It proved happily effective in bringing both into a better understanding and a readier co-operation. By dint of continual effort in awakening student sentiment we congratulated ourselves not only in maintaining reasonably clean athletics at home but in the state association of which Millikin was a member. Such a result can only be realized by having a clean director, a clean coach, and a clean faculty behind the movement. I mention these and other things which in the minds of some people

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may seem trivial, but in the management of an institution of learning there are few things so trivial that they can be wisely overlooked, tho it is possible to magnify some unduly.

Ignoring a multiplicity of details leading to my resignation in December, 1912, I will confine myself to a very brief recital of events leading to it.

Being out of harmony with certain proposed changes in the organization and policy for Decatur College as recommended by the Secretary of the Board of Education of the Presbyterian Church in New York, and favored by Dr. Judd, a theoretical expert of the department of education in the University of Chicago and favored in part by some members of our Board of Managers, I felt that I could not consistently remain and that my resignation was the logical thing.

Immediately we went on our holiday vacation, it being understood that my action would not be announced before my return. I was, however met at the five o'clock morning train on our arrival home by a representative of the Decatur Herald who stated to us that the action was known by many people and that much matter was already in type awaiting our arrival as the President of our board had suggested that I might have a word to say also.

Under the circumstances I thought best to make a brief statement regarding it as expressions of regret were coming already from many quarters. Both dailies gave generous space and kind words for me and my work; both editors personally reiterating their friendship and offering me space for anything I might wish to say. I cared only to express my hearty appreciation of the sympathy and generous cooperation which had ever been so generously given me by the citizens and friends of the college and to ask the same for my successor.

When I went to my class the next morning, the seniors rose and stood in silence, the president stating that it seemed the only way they had to express their regret. At chapel, Mr. Edgar Smith, as the representative of the students made a very gracious speech of the same tenor and all rose and stood in silence also; whereupon Dean Rogers stepped forward as a representative from the faculty saying that they too wished a word in the tribute which it gave him such pleasure in uttering. He spoke of his acquaintance with plants and policies of colleges thruout this country and Europe and gave Millikin a high rank among them, emphasizing especially the architectural achievement in the artistic group of buildings which grace our campus.

Not long afterward on the invitation of our board an

interested audience of our best citizens gathered in the Decatur Club rooms to hear Dr. Judd elaborate his views on the problems involved. Dr. W. H. Penhallegon, president of trustees of the University presided, asking a few of those present familiar with the original movement to organize the college to give their view of its accomplishments and value to the community all of whom had generous praise for it.

In Dr. Judd's address he explained that he was a theoretical investigator and a student of educational problems rather than a practical educator. He then very generously complimented the organization and accomplishments of the managers saying that his inspection of it had convinced him that a master mind had been at the helm and that he had nothing but the highest praise for it. He then set forth his junior college ideas illustrating its advantages in meeting community demands and advocated the discontinuance of the academy which had been contemplated by us as the proper time came. He also outlined a variety of things which he felt his ideal college could profitably do for the community, many of which we were already doing or had attempted and which had been found infeasible or had been planning to do as soon as funds were available.

I was then introduced with such complimentary expressions that I was moved to blushes. I had not expected to speak at all, but thought that the opportunity had now come for me to make some things plain to those present. As I went forward the entire company rose and stood until I recognized them. This graciousness almost unnerved me, but I soon recovered with a little pleasantry in response and announced my delightful surprise at the numerous bouquets tossed to Millikin and to me, when I was prepared for brickbats instead, especially from our visitor. I then very courteously took up the criticisms and suggestions of the Doctor, giving a brief history of the development of the college in accordance with the ideals prompting Mr. Millikin in its founding, together with the efforts made to meet characteristic local demands by offering special courses for them. I explained the surveys which had discovered these apparent demands and the provisions in the way of special equipment and instruction together with the methods of publicity used to make the community acquainted with them. I further showed that many of the demands proved to be temporary and ceased after a year or two or even after a semester. Others continued and were at that time being met. I emphasized the fact that community educational needs varied in different localities and that as the number of students from Decatur and Macon county had

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always been very large, it was sufficient evidence that the college was wisely adapting itself to them here and at the same time commanding a large general patronage from the central West.

I further demonstrated the economy of our administration and showed its efficiency thru the close correlation and articulation of the various departments and schools of the college, thus saving unnecessary duplication of equipment and instructors.

I further justified our organization and position as a senior college and explained the legal and moral obstacles in the way of reorganizing it as a junior or as a strictly municipal college, maintaining that only an institution of its type could meet modern educational demands in a large way and command the patronage of all classes of people.

All of this and more would have been given the good Doctor, had he originally accepted my offer to go into details concerning our organization and policy with him.

When I had finished, the spontaneous applause and hearty personal congratulations and felicitations following assured me that no very radical changes in the policy of the college would be inaugurated.

As it became necessary for us to issue our annual catalog and prospectus, I was instructed to go ahead as usual preserving the integrity of the organization as tho nothing had happened. This result of the discussion and uncertainty engendered by the action of the Board in December was most gratifying tho the public announcement of radical changes in prospect had already deterred some prospective students from coming to us and induced some of our own to go elsewhere in the Autumn.

In accepting my resignation, the President had kindly stated that "we would like to have your assistance in selecting a successor." I was finally called in to give my views on the three most likely candidates whom the committee had rounded up and after carefully inspecting their records and recommendations agreed with him that on their face that no one seemed more desirable than Dr. George E. Fellows, whom I had known personally for many years.

I had been asked whether I would consent to retain my chair of philosophy and pedagogy and continue with the institution for a few years longer. The papers had early announced that the board was seeking a man of liberal scholarship and great breadth, a man of national reputation for the position and, hoping that such an executive would be found and an attractive salary offered him, I had been giving the

matter rather serious consideration. Such a chair free from administrative responsibilities under a man of large and progressive ideals, in which I would have time to bring up some belated literary work and devote myself to long neglected study and research, had been a cherished dream for some time. Previous to his formal appointment, Dr. Fellows approached me on the subject, asking whether the position would be agreeable to me in case he should accept the presidency.

On the inside, our college work increased in interest, the whole year being a gratifying climax to the forty-one it completed in my pedagogical career. Students and student organizations seemed to vie with each other in contributing to its success and in showing us their affection and good will on every possible occasion. Numerous social affairs in our honor were given during the Spring by them and by the faculty. In recognition of my courtesies to it, the French club presented me with a small medal sent thru it by the French Government. At the May-Pole exercises the young women presented Mrs. Taylor with a massive floral cornucopia inside of which she found a dainty box enclosing a most exquisite gold brooch in token of their appreciation of her devotion to their interests. On the morning of the last general chapel exercises, which were conducted by the graduating class assembled on the platform, a representative of the student body presented me with a handsome solid silver paper weight artistically engraved and decorated with the Taylor coat of arms. On the sides is the following legend: "*Pignus Amoris Praesidi Alberto R. Taylor, Abeunt Magistratu A Discipulis.*"

At a dinner by the faculty, a beautiful personally signed Memory Book was given us and we were invited to the campus for a complimentary concert by the Girls' Glee Club which was most enjoyable. At the Alumni banquet on Commencement day, the Alumni presented me with a rare silver loving cup, and thruout the closing week no opportunity seemed lost for a speaker to turn a kindly word to me and mine.

Governor Hadley of Missouri had been engaged for the commencement address, but the day before wired me that illness prevented his coming. No substitute could be found, so I delivered it and the Board President and Secretary were so pleased with the message that they forced upon me the liberal honorarium which had been promised the distinguished Governor for his services.

In this connection I may be permitted to say that the Second Presbyterian Church of which we were members, gave us a reception just before we left Decatur at which a specially prepared Memory Book made up of personal and group photo-

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graphs, friendly limericks, etc., and handsomely ornamented and bound in leather, was presented to us, which is not only a very beautiful and unique token, but which will be a source of perennial enjoyment to us. On the evening before we had planned to leave the city, a dinner was tendered me by leading citizens in the Decatur Club rooms at which many kind things were spoken that showed how fully our constituents appreciated the influence of the University for better things on the multiple phases of Decatur's life. My successor, Dr. Fellows, and the new Superintendent of the city schools, Mr. Engleman, vied with the others in the cordiality of their post-prandials, the former recalling his visit of inspection to the Kansas State Normal School where he was so much impressed with its unexcelled spirit and standards that he had reported it to the University of Chicago as second to none in this country and that he considered it an honor to be called as my successor. Mr. Robert I. Hunt said that "in speaking of the success of the University, it is well to remember that one man made it possible by his money but that another had built it by his brains."

I now return to pick up a few things filling out other phases of my life inside and outside university circles, regretting always the necessity of treating them in a brief way and of ignoring much that I would like to mention.

It had been my ambition to put at least seven buildings on the campus before laying down my office, one of which should be a well equipped gymnasium. When Mr. and Mrs. Millikin expressed a desire to erect a Hall for Women instead, I reluctantly acquiesced and helped to make it as attractive and home-like as possible both externally and internally. Our patrons took deep interest in every little detail, and we were quite solicitous that its management should give them increasing pleasure in the few years remaining to them. They were however, so predisposed toward a few long discarded regulations that we had to find some middle ground on them which perhaps was better for the girls. I suggested the name Aston Hall for it in recognition of Mrs. Millikin's family name, her father having been a minister in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, but Mr. Millikin demurred saying however, that after his demise we might do as we pleased about it. Not long after it occurred, we so designated it, Mrs. Millikin seeming much pleased.

After its completion, it was the general understanding that the gymnasium should come next. The School of Music grew so phenomenally, however, that before Mr. Millikin's death, he was becoming interested in a building for it, encouraged

to do so by Director Kaeuper's rare genius for castle building. Afterwards Doctor McClelland thought it more urgent than a gymnasium and took me over the campus to get my views on a location for it. I put in a strong plea for the other building in preference but finally succeeded in getting a promise for both, which so tremendously aroused the students that on its announcement in chapel, they pressed into service all sorts of conveyances and with trumpet and drum paraded the town and serenaded the trustees of the Millikin estate at the bank with a gusto that voiced their joy in no uncertain way.

Those two buildings, thoroly up-to-date in their construction and appointments, completed the handsomest group of college buildings outside the big universities in the entire West. Altogether they cost, including their equipment about \$450,000.

In getting acquainted with the non-state colleges in Illinois, I found much chaos in courses and standards, hence I was glad to respond to a call for a conference at Bloomington to organize for mutual advantage, giving the keynote address on "The Function of the Christian College." Two or three college presidents introduced the matter, but showed so much antagonism towards the public schools and the higher State institutions that a few of us declined to proceed on such a basis and no action was taken. About a year after of my own initiative, I called a conference at Millikin for the same purpose inviting the higher Catholic colleges to meet with us also. Some fourteen were represented and with the aid of President Hieronymous of Eureka we declared ourselves an integral part of the great educational system of our country and proceeded to organize on that basis. We at once appointed committees to devise closer and more sympathetic articulation with the State school system and to formulate common standards for the non-state colleges. I was elected President, serving two years, and we soon enrolled some two dozen of the best institutions of learning in the State. In addition we came into friendly affiliation with the State Normal Schools and the State University and all worked together in efforts to standardize our colleges and secure progressive educational legislation thru which much advantage accrued to us all. Our annual meetings at the different colleges and semi-annual business conferences at the State Capital were most enjoyable and profitable in every way.

Along somewhat in the same line was the founding of the University Club at Decatur which was instituted by me with the co-operation of Dr. Horace Strain, pastor of the First

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Congregational church, and other good men of the city, and I served as its President for some years. Its active membership was limited to college graduates and its associate to a few undergraduates whose affiliation was thought desirable by their success in business or professional lines and their interest in problems common with our own. Its membership has always included a good proportion of the larger and more companionable spirits among the classes named, and its deliberations and discussions have contributed materially to good fellowship and industrial and civic progress in Decatur. Many movements for its betterment have had their origin in its councils and its members have ever been among the leaders in promoting and supporting wholesome attempts for making Decatur more livable and lovable.

The change to Decatur naturally brought me into closer personal relationship with the religious activities of our own and other churches in which I found much pleasure and profit. In transferring my membership to the local communion, I found myself also a member of its session with progressive policies under consideration calling forth much thought and labor. Declining any suggestion of the superintendency of the Sunday School, I organized a teachers' training class in it which accomplished some excellent things and for some years furnished the school with successful teachers. With the opening of the University, I assumed the general direction of the Bible Study Classes organized for the students in the different churches under the tutelage of faculty members and others, giving many hours each week to the preparation of the lesson outlines used and taught my own class also. The Decatur Review kindly published these outlines each week for a long time. The examinations given those completing the courses brought some rather remarkable papers, which were readily credited on the course required for graduation in the college.

I was highly honored in being elected president of the State Sunday School Association for its Mattoon meeting; in being given a place on the program of the International Association at its Toronto meeting; in being sent several times as a delegate to the Illinois Synod and a commissioner to the General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian and of the United and Reunited Church; in being appointed by the latter as a member of the Religious Educational Committee which served for some years devising a more comprehensive and efficient system of religious culture in the home and the church; in being made one of the twenty-one members of the National Council of the Presbyterian Brotherhood; in the appointment to the Board of Directors of McCormick Theological Seminary

at Chicago, of which I was president for a year—and in numerous other ways far beyond my deserts. I have often regretted my inability to accept for various reasons several desirable and responsible appointments to national and international conferences, offered me by those high in authority.

Tho demands upon me at first for educational addresses in Illinois were not so great as in Kansas, the talks at religious conventions and in churches took me away from home fully as much. As the Brotherhood movement was inaugurated, I accepted the presidency of the state organization continuing there and in its Council until 1913. At one time I was also president of our local brotherhood and chairman of the presbyterial and synodical committees, all of which taxed my time and strength tho it gave me joy to serve my brethren.

My early experience in keeping books at the general store and in my father's office at the factory in Wenona, together with that of teaching the subject to private classes in Lincoln University had fitted me well for the inauguration and management of our financial system at the State Normal School which qualified me still further for the similar responsibility at Millikin. As there never had been a material deficit in the former, I followed my own inclinations and Mr. Millikin's injunction to avoid it in the latter, carefully preparing my budgets in both cases with a good margin for safety.

Twice in making up my estimates, I found it necessary to ask Mr. Millikin for an additional five thousand dollars for the ensuing year in order to increase the facilities for properly caring for the rapidly growing attendance, which amounts however, did not go beyond the total promised for the first five years. He promptly granted it in each case, simply saying: "Be sure to keep within your means."

It must not be supposed however, that I was not doing anything to increase our endowments. I was quietly cultivating friendly relations with certain people of means and from time to time sent out special information to them concerning our needs and their opportunities. I also sympathetically co-operated with our financial agents in various ways and had the satisfaction of knowing that I was directly instrumental in securing several bequests, and indirectly in other cases, several of which have been realized.

I have elsewhere incidentally spoken of my several fruitless visits with Dr. Buttrick of the General Education Board in the interest of an increased endowment. In addition, several letters passed between us. Repeated efforts to get assistance from Mr. Carnegie thru Dr. Bertram and to have Millikin

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placed on their pension list were also unsuccessful on account of our organic relationship to the church.

No deans of our Schools were appointed at first as I did not wish to put on "too many airs" in starting, with additional cost in the way of higher salaries; indeed, I studied economy everywhere and was often complimented by schoolmen and others on our success in constructing such buildings so economically and in running such a comprehensive and efficient organization on so small an income. In lieu of formal deans, we recognized senior professors in each School when advisable as informal chairmen of their faculties and thus were paving the way for more intelligent and definite organization later.

Occasionally I mentioned the matter to my board but it counselled postponement until an episode occurred which precipitated action resulting in the appointment of Dr. J. D. Rogers of the department of Ancient Languages as Dean of the College and of the School of Liberal Arts.

He was not long in making himself exceedingly useful to all of us and relieved me of a vast amount of detail work in which he showed unusual aptitude. I regretted very much his loss to the College just as my successor entered upon his duties for he would have been invaluable to him in the administration of its affairs. His rare scholarship and fidelity to his ideals helped much to gain for Millikin a high place among the Western colleges.

As President of The James Millikin University, I was also President of its constituent colleges, Lincoln and Decatur, for each of which the charter provided I should supervise in conjunction with its local board of managers, both to pay my salary in proportion to their productive endowment funds. It was agreed that I should reside at Decatur and, as the college here had a larger foundation, give it a proportionately larger part of my time. To be specific, two days in each alternate week were to be devoted to Lincoln. Its managers elected a Dean of the College in the person of Dr. J. L. Goodnight, its then efficient executive head. Our relations were extremely cordial, and we worked together enthusiastically in planning and constructing the new administrative building with funds subscribed by the citizens of Logan County in response to a gift of fifty thousand dollars to its endowment by Mr. Millikin; in revising the courses of study and advancing the standards for admission and graduation, thus coordinating the work of the two colleges in common subjects so that each could readily accept transfers from the other. The time of my visits for the first two years was generally

occupied in this way and in brief addresses and personal conferences pertaining to college interests.

Not long after the arrival of my family in Decatur, Dr. and Mrs. Goodnight on behalf of our Lincoln friends invited us to a reception over there making elaborate preparations for the event. They gave us a royal entertainment and vied with each other in their efforts to welcome us back to Illinois and to show their determination to do their part in building up the University and the College, in which the managers and faculty members were heartily seconded by the citizens generally. Other functions and private social affairs from time to time were of like tenor, all of which made us feel very much at home again and, combined with our exceedingly harmonious and pleasant official relations, augured well for the future.

From the beginning Mr. Millikin had been somewhat skeptical of the feasibility of the dual organization of the University and urged that its president should occupy a merely nominal relationship to Lincoln College in order that all of my time could be given to Decatur.

A committee from the Board of Trustees was appointed to adjust details including salary, methods of advertising, etc. In assisting in working out these and many other problems I was aided by my devoted friend, J. T. Foster, President of Lincoln College Board, in whose untimely death we were sorely bereft as well as in that of my equally wise adviser and friend Isaac R. Mills, president of the Decatur College Board tho their successors were very sympathetic and helpful.

The two changes following in the deanship at Lincoln brought into its faculty a very capable and delightful man in the person of Dr. J. W. McMurray who for several years made our problems easier of solution, tho adjustments of the Hobart Williams fund could not be made as desired because our donor did not favor it as he expressed to me personally when I submitted the matter to him, stating that the industrial feature had prompted his choice of Decatur among the five named by him.

I spent the rest of the month of June in pushing the canvass for students as usual, in closing up office correspondence, and in preparing my annual report to the Board of Managers. I was extremely gratified by reading the statement in a city paper later from Dr. Fellows to the effect that "no man could have left the office affairs in better condition than I had done; that there was nothing to do but to take up the day's routine as tho no break had occurred."

One attractive feature drawing us to Millikin was the

prospect of intimate association with several life-long friends in working out its problems, three of them occupying as they did the presidencies of the respective boards of trustees and managers,—Dr. W. J. Darby, J. T. Foster and I. R. Mills. Men better fitted by their personality, education and experience for such collaboration could hardly be found anywhere. They made a fine team and were loyally supported by wise counselors and faithful workers. With their aid many delicate problems arising in the beginning were solved and harmonious relations established. They were absolutely unselfish and were moved in all their actions by one common desire, the building up of a great institution of learning at Lincoln and Decatur.

It was a grievous calamity that took the last two named away from us at the very time when some important readjustments arising out of our first few years' experience became advisable, leaving their solution to men who though equally zealous, were less familiar with the clientage of both boards, with the genius and aims of the University organization and the methods successfully pursued in working out the problems heretofore confronting us.

The two new friends on the Decatur board with whom I was more quickly and more intimately associated in constructing and equipping the buildings, and who also had Mr. Millikin's entire confidence, were Mr. Peter Loeb and Mr. A. R. Montgomery. Both had large experience, the former particularly had traveled much, and they were remarkably wise in reaching conclusions and in giving advice about a multiplicity of things that devolved upon me.

The vacancy among the managers due to the death of President I. R. Mills, was filled by the appointment of Superintendent E. A. Gastman, forty years in the Decatur city schools, who was also at once elected president of the board. He had served some twenty years on the State Board of Education controlling the State Normal University, and was a man of wide information and unimpeachable character. His selection was favored by Mr. Millikin for he felt that a man of his reputation and experience would be better able to judge of the wisdom of our policy and the efficiency of our management than the business men on the board. He was no less acceptable to me for the same reason. I had always courted the fullest inspection of our affairs by competent men that we might learn our defects and mistakes and be confirmed in our excellencies. Mr. Gastman entered upon his duties enthusiastically and was pleased to report to our patron that he found nothing to condemn but much to approve and praise;

that he was greatly surprised to find the institution so economically administered and possessed of so excellent a faculty. But at a time when he too could have been most useful to us the Reaper gathered him to his fathers and I was more bereft than ever.

Of course we could not overlook our dual obligations to the local constituency and to the church which had also contributed so generously to its founding on conditions that could not be ignored, and who by their unwavering support and patronage were contributing the life and blood essential to its notable development.

My associations with Mr. Millikin as a whole were extremely cordial and the long and many hours together in friendly conversation and interested planning, in much of which he was very confidential, will ever be remembered as among the most enjoyable of my life. He had travelled much, was well versed on many themes, had thought deeply, and was a most entertaining companion.

The gift of his large estate to philanthropic enterprises shows how loyal he was to the vows of his youth. As he was walking up the campus on dedication day with President Roosevelt and myself he said: "This is the realization of a dream of mine when a student in Jefferson College, Pennsylvania, where I saw so many young people struggling for an education in that little school with very limited facilities, for I there said that if ever fortune favored me with wealth, I would use it in establishing an institution of learning where young men and women of all classes and conditions could secure a liberal education and one that should fit them well for life's responsibilities." He was always deeply touched when he found any one showing appreciation of his services to his fellow-men. One day one of our students dropped into his office and thanked him for founding the University in Decatur, his home, for otherwise he could never have secured a collegiate education. Tears rolled down Mr. Millikin's cheeks as he softly assured the young man of the pleasure his words gave him. He was especially solicitous that the spiritual life should dominate all the activities of the institution, asking me often whether the members of the faculty were active in their several churches and in looking after the moral and religious needs of the students. In stipulating that the internal management should be non-sectarian, he assured me that he had not intended that it should be one whit less Christian on that account; if it was, his object in founding it had miscarried.

Mrs. Millikin was early appointed a member of the com-

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mittee on buildings and grounds and was pleased to give her time and counsel in their construction and equipment, her particular interest centering in beautifying the campus and in the management of Aston Hall. Her intimate friends tell of the recurring satisfaction which she and Mr. Millikin found in dreaming and working out their plans for their educational and charitable enterprises, and no sight was more attractive to us than to see them driving or strolling over the college grounds admiring and enjoying the transformation their hands and hearts had made possible.

I had much occasion to become well acquainted with her and in spite of some peculiarities, many of which were incident to old age and a long life in the management of her personal affairs and philanthropic enterprises, learned to appreciate her great worth and the spirit prompting her many benefactions, which were more numerous and far-reaching than most people surmised.

They were usually quite punctilious in attending the semi-official social functions at our home, seemingly enjoying them as much as anybody, and were generally present at the more important college affairs of all kinds, where we strove to make them most welcome. The high character of the platform exercises, musical, dramatic and forensic, was a perennial surprise to them, and they were seldom in their box without being accompanied by some personal friends and, when not able to be present themselves often sent invitations to others to fill them. It pleased us greatly that on occasions when many rooms or all the buildings were thrown open for social or exposition purposes that they were frequently most emphatic in the expression of their appreciation and gratification at what they saw and heard. At one of the great annual commencement exhibits of the technical and scientific departments which were happily supplemented by almost every other feature of the college, as we were finishing an evening of touring, Mr. Millikin said: "Why, this is almost like the World's Fair."

Late in June 1913, as we were inspecting Aston Hall with a view to some repairs, Mrs. Millikin said: "We shall miss you and Mrs. Taylor when you are gone." She was very weak then and it was her last visit to the campus, for in a few days her weary, lonely heart was at rest. She died July 29, 1913.

Thus they two had gone, and as we gathered in affectionate ministry at the old home for the last time, the strangely commingled events of the dozen years in which our lives had been so intimately interwoven and built into that great insti-

tution among the old trees in Oakland Park almost overwhelmed me and I wondered whether its mission were not more sure because of the self-denials and sacrifices some of us had made in its behalf. Trusting that was true, it was easy to forget the things which caused them and do heart and word homage to the memory of its great-hearted founders and patrons. I had surrendered the commission which they had given me, and my heart grew mellow in the consciousness that it had been executed so faithfully and loyally and with such a gratifying measure of success. It was no small privilege to be permitted to join with them in giving form and content and life to the visions and dreams which had led them through half a century of self-denial and struggle.

In 1885 we purchased the Loomis cottage, Congress and Twelfth, in Emporia. It soon became a center of many social and educational interests that taxed its quarters to the utmost. While at each place we have set up the family altar and our life has been greatly blest, our hearts instinctively turn to that modest little home in which our children grew into their teens and into womanhood, as the place where the felicities of our charmed circle reached their climax. In saying this, I am not thinking of minimizing the happiness of the days at Lincoln in which our babes were weaving themselves into our hearts and our lives by the innocent arts that sprang up with their unfolding vision and captivated us at every step. It would take a volume to write that story and to tell how those dear sprites transformed our lives in their own awakening.

We had always admired the elegant and commodious Cross home, at Emporia, northeast corner of Union and Tenth, with half a block of green lawn surrounded by superb elms of a quarter century's growth, but never had thought it possible for us to own it. One day in the summer of 1897, I was offered it at less than half its cost and we were soon in it greatly enjoying its spacious rooms and its more numerous and well-designed conveniences.

That home enabled us to care for the larger social functions, which the rapidly growing school demanded, in a much more acceptable way and relieved the family from the congestion incident to our larger personal affiliations and increasing individual requirements. As was often said by our friends,—“It seemed built for a president's home,” in which remark, we heartily concurred. Our daughter Jessie Minerva's marriage to Mr. Allen Sheldon Newman occurred there, and it certainly decorated most beautifully and appropriately for the goodly company of friends who graced the occasion. A typical light December snow was falling as the guests gathered, and the

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warm glow from the several fire places heightened the welcome of the brilliantly lighted rooms, where our family seemed to have quickly multiplied two or three score times. Among them were many dear friends from far away whose presence added vastly to our enjoyment.

After two years in the Baker home at Decatur, heretofore mentioned, and two short changes elsewhere, we moved into the Johnson house, 731 West Prairie, which was particularly attractive and livable, tho soon too small for the necessary institutional functions arising.

Daughter Kittie Mary's marriage to Mr. John Thomas Cronkhite was solemnized in its pretty parlors on March 30, 1907. In deference to their wishes, invitations were extended only to a choice circle of personal friends tho they filled all available space almost shutting from view the chaste floral decorations that deft hands had wrought so becomingly. She had been awakened by the Girls' Glee Club of the University with their beautiful serenade, "'Tis Thy Wedding Morning," and the love tokens from her sorority sisters and others coming in all day made her heart and ours doubly glad. As their friends followed them with a generous shower of rice and a more generous *bon voyage*, we suddenly realized that tho the coming of two young men of fine spirit and irreproachable character into our life and home had greatly enriched us that the larger interests and affections of our daughters were now naturally centering around their own new hearthstones and that we were again to take up our journey alone.

Nature has a kind way of relieving bereaved hearts by interesting them in new problems and new enterprises in which new affections are focused and new joys are found. So we were not long in losing ourselves in working out the plans for the new home we had decided to build on the corner of West Wood and South Fairview, for which we had purchased a couple of years before. It was much more pretentious than we required for our personal use, but no larger than we needed for our official station. A home that is not shared is a dreary sort of a box after all, and this one gradually came to mean more and more to us with the influx of friends from far and near who frequently graced and blest it with good cheer and heartening fellowship.

Mrs. Taylor's interest in missions early became a passion with her and many a discouraged band took on new life under the spell of her stimulating talks and infectious zeal. As chairman of local auxiliaries, presbyterial and synodical organizations and often as a delegate to national councils she was able to contribute much to the growth and progress of

the Woman's Board of the former Cumberland Presbyterian Church and later to the State work of the Presbyterian Church.

As early as 1876, I became much interested in the proposed union of the Cumberland Presbyterian and Presbyterian Church U. S. A. and was disappointed greatly when our General Assembly refused to continue its committee on the subject. My interest was naturally again awakened with the agitation in the mother church for the revision of its creed which would harmonize it so fully with ours that the reunion appeared feasible. When that was accomplished, both churches seemed ready to re-open negotiations. In a conference in my office at Decatur in August, 1903, with Dr. W. J. Darby and Dr. A. W. Hawkins, I proposed that we take the initiative, and it was agreed that the first named should formulate the proper resolution to be adopted as an overture to the General Assembly in the early meetings of Lincoln and Decatur Presbyteries. Dean Goodnight of Lincoln College secured its adoption without modification in the former, and at the same time Dr. Hawkins submitted it to the latter in informal session for an exchange of views. Some of the delegates were not quite ready to go so far as to adopt it as an overture, but were willing to vote for it merely as a declaration that the opportune time had arrived for a resumption of friendly conferences on the subject. Rev. A. G. Bergen and I were asked to revise it and it was adopted in the afternoon by a practically unanimous vote.

At the suggestion of Dr. Darby, the local and Associated Press exploited the action and he mailed copies of the Herald and Review to hundreds of leading churchmen supplementing them with personal appeals for similar action in all the jurisdictions. I seconded his efforts in a personal way as seemed advisable and the response was spontaneous. To our surprise, however, a serious antagonism to the movement developed in certain quarters even in the Presbyterian church, which later began to organize to defeat the movement. The General Assemblies promptly appointed preliminary committees thru which a joint commission was raised to propose a plan for a union and reunion. The opposition in our church, now thoroly aroused, began the publication of two weekly papers devoted to a feverish campaign "of enlightenment and organization," revealing a venom and a spirit that reminded us of the days of the Reformation. Our denominational organ which at first deplored the agitation as premature now earnestly advised the union and yet the complexion of the General Assembly to meet at Fresno, California, in May, 1905,

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was an uncertain quantity on the very eve of its organization on account of reputed irregularities in the election of certain commissioners and the unknown views of a few others.

I was a delegate from our presbytery but had not come on in any one of the special anti- or pro-union excursion trains where all sorts of combinations in favor of candidates for moderator and of compromise and counter movements were vigorously proposed and discussed. Both factions held caucuses in the evening, the antis excluding all but their sympathizers and strictly guarding their secrets. We held an open conference, resulting in the morning in the withdrawal of all candidates except Dr. J. B. Hail, a beloved Missionary to Japan who came as a commissioner from its people. After exhausting every resource to gain advantage, the antis found their candidate 37 votes short of election to the moderatorship and did not have the grace to make Dr. Hail's election unanimous as is the custom even in political assemblies. The lines were well drawn and every session made them more tense, tho a score or more of the opposition showed a disposition to yield to the decision of the Assembly when it should finally be made. I was asked to speak in favor of the Commission's report, and I seemed to have unusual liberty of tongue while doing so, for an intimate friend told me that he had never heard me talk so effectively. We did not seem to have changed a single vote, tho we may have confirmed some and possibly had some influence with a goodly number who went home and pursued a more conservative attitude afterward.

The report of the Commission was adopted and sent down to the presbyteries for their approval. It is customary in such an important matter to accompany the overture with a pastoral letter to be read to the churches, explaining the nature of the proposed change in the organic law and setting forth its desirability. I prepared such a letter setting forth in a very brief way the reasons for the merger and the happy effect it would have upon the evangelical work of the church and made an earnest, conciliatory appeal for its adoption. Dr. W. H. Black as chairman of the steering committee read it and moved its adoption. To our surprise it aroused the most bitter and vehement attacks from the fire-eaters in the opposition. In spite of the fact that I had put into it all the accumulated conciliatory spirit and brotherly disposition which I had inherited from my Quaker ancestors and cultivated assiduously for a third of a century, they seemed that much more vicious and threatening on account of it.

At the next meeting of the Assembly, at Decatur, the union having been approved by a majority of the presbyteries,

they came ostensibly to disrupt the church if they could not frighten the delegates against a vote of confirmation and final action for completing the union. Defeat in this being evident, they appealed to the Civil Court to interfere, but it dismissed the case, and they at the close gathered in a city hall and organized a rump assembly issuing a statement claiming themselves to be the true and only Cumberland Presbyterian church. While all of us deplored the unfortunate friction thus arising, we could not conscientiously retrace our steps and so contented ourselves with issuing a more elaborate pastoral letter, tho none the less fraternal and conciliatory, nor less fervent in its appeals for dispassionate judgment and harmonious action by all the churches. I had the privilege of formulating that message also, into which was incorporated Judge Gaut's forceful summary of the legality of the various steps taken by the presbyteries and General Assemblies, and was highly honored by one of the old prophets in Israel in the statement that it was the best pastoral letter he had ever read.

I was chairman of the Illinois Synod's Committee on litigation which financed and supervised a successful defense in the suits brought against us there, and we won friends everywhere by our dignified attitude and manifest fairness.

The wisdom of the Union is certainly shown in almost every phase of the activities of the united church and especially in the vigorous extension of its evangelical enterprises. Its heartening effects upon the ministry of both former churches as well as upon the laity in general has been most marked.

In the selection of my teachers at Emporia and Decatur, it was impossible for me to divest myself of the keen sense of personal responsibility to our patrons for securing men and women of the highest scholarship and professional skill available as well as of unquestioned probity and moral and religious character. As in each case, I was building up an institution of learning, it was also important that they be possessed of much grace of manner and personal magnetism in order to attract and make loyal friends of all classes of students. It was not possible to avoid mistakes occasionally, but as stated before, I seldom erred much in my estimate of candidates and tho I did sometimes discard deserving people, I had the satisfaction of knowing that my policy was the only wise one to follow. In every case possible I sought the advice of the dean, the head of the department interested, or other members of the faculty whose judgment might be of value to me. Tho I was glad to have the assistance of other people

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and of the board whose duty it was to confirm my nominations, I do not now recall that in all my executive career, more than half a dozen candidates were ever unduly urged upon me for appointment and these were equally distributed between Kansas and Illinois. A friend of mine, a leading politician in Emporia, early came to me and strongly presented the claims of a certain lady emphasizing her personal character particularly. In leaving, he said smiling: "Now I have done my part; it is for you to determine whether she is capable." I thanked him cordially and genuinely regretted that I could not find her scholastically qualified for the position.

It is a little difficult for some people, even in influential positions, to recognize the vast difference in the qualifications of candidates, especially when their protege may be a college or a professional graduate. It is also difficult for them to realize the fact that the nominating power is in the hands of an expert and that hesitation on his part is usually sufficient evidence that his judgment is against the candidate tho otherwise he would be pleased to favor him. I think I never appointed a subordinate instructor in any department against the judgment or wishes of his superior, thus striving for consistency and harmony in our force. The highest efficiency of any faculty is never attained where there is a lack of sympathetic co-operation with each other and with their chief.

I have fully set forth the relationship and spirit which should obtain in an ideal faculty in my little book, "Among Ourselves," in the paragraphs on "Father Superior, Mother Inferior, and Brothers and Sisters all." Mutual respect, unrestrained freedom in the discussion of our problems and unity of purpose and action in working them out will always result in healthy, wholesome growth. The principal difficulty in the management of an institution of learning is the disposition of some of the members of the faculty to take upon themselves responsibilities which really rest upon the executive officer and thus arouse more or less restlessness and dissatisfaction among their associates. That kind of leaven easily leavens the whole lump. I once had such a man with me and whenever friction arose in my dealings with any of them, they usually very promptly made visits to his home for comfort. Had he been filled with the right spirit, he might have been a great power for good, but ambition buzzed about his ears and he lost his opportunity.

Changes in a faculty ought never to be made except for good reasons. From the beginning of my executive career, I made it a point to be very frank with my teachers and to give them every opportunity to improve their work and regain

lost standing. It was only when they failed or were indisposed to make the attempt that I suggested resignation,—and then it was always with much regret. Of course such matters cannot be published from the housetops, and I have often undergone severe criticism, suffering calumny privately and even publicly, rather than do so and thus discount the professional standing of our departing instructors. In some cases the cause of their going was in their friction with one or more members of the board by which they had lost its confidence and destroyed in large measure their usefulness, tho in these and all other cases, I ever strove to handle the situation as diplomatically and delicately as possible, bearing the onus of the change on my own shoulders.

I believe in permanent tenures for teachers for various reasons and have always contended for such a provision in our contracts, but whenever a teacher has demonstrated his inability to work harmoniously with the organization of which he is a part or minimizes his usefulness seriously in any other way, he ought to go elsewhere. An institution of learning ought to be like a great family. It is no place for self-seekers or for mischief mongers. When it breaks up into factions, its influence over the young people who come into its atmosphere is pernicious and destructive to a degree seldom understood by the laity.

I have been greatly surprised at times over the lack of frankness on the part of some candidates for positions in my faculty. One illustration must suffice. In his written application he stated that he was a member of the Congregational church, but when I asked for the name of the pastor of that church in the small city where he had lived for some eleven years he was unable to give it to me for he had been deeply engrossed in his specialty since going there. No comment is necessary!

Part V

Seeing America 1913-1915

Millikin Again 1915-1919

After disposing of our home to the Kappa Delta Chi boys, we decided to spend a few months on the Pacific coast and return in time for visits with our children in Kansas and Oklahoma before going to Louisiana and Florida after the holidays to look after some business interests needing personal attention. We later decided to include Skagway, Alaska, in our itinerary on the assurance given us that the weather would continue propitious into October.

After a brief stop at Minneapolis with my brother Will and family in which we were shown the marvelous development and attractive environments of the Twin Cities, we went speeding thru the vast wheat fields of northern Minnesota, Dakota, Saskatchewan and Alberta and on over the "top of the world" with a forty hour visit at blessed Lake Louise, reaching Vancouver in time for a day there before taking the superb Canadian Pacific steamer, St. Sophia, for Skagway.

The voyage up a thousand miles nearer the North Pole, with all of its wonderful scenery and novel experiences needs several pages for even a partial satisfactory description. The two days in and around Skagway while our cargo was being discharged and our ship reloaded, in which we filled up on Alaskan history and progress and imbibed much of the infectious Alaskan spirit, were indescribably delightful. The day at Victoria on our return with its decidedly English atmosphere was equally enjoyable.

We woke up in a restful hotel at Seattle the next morning and were given an exhilarating auto drive over that fascinating city in the afternoon by Dr. and Mrs. Earl Carney, '97 and '96, K. S. N. S., respectively, winding up at their charming home on the lake-side for a most palatable dinner, followed by an evening of good cheer with some thirty old time Kansas State Normal guests and some Lincoln University children of the seventies,—lovers all and happy in such a privileged reunion.

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The next morning in response to a message from the Kansas State Normal School, members of the faculty in the Washington State Normal School at Bellingham, to address the five hundred students in attendance, we took train on a most attractive shore line and as guests of Professors Frank Hayes and Ada Hogle were soon comfortably located in the former's pleasant home. After a talk to a very responsive student body, we sat down to a generous luncheon prepared by the domestic science department and found eight K. S. N. S. people and one Millikin boy in the company. The president of the School and his good wife with a few other choice spirits helped make merry as we always did at similar occasions at Emporia.

A month's visit with friends on the way back to Denver brought us facing a cordial invitation from Mr. and Mrs. George Elstun and other good Kansas friends at Colorado Springs to switch off there for awhile as we started East again. A great surprise was in store for us and as we were rushed over to the Elstun's hotel, we were given just fifteen minutes to appear in line in the parlors. Nearly forty of them gave us a noisy Jayhawker greeting and soon escorted us to the banquet table appropriately set and decorated for the occasion. A few local educators joined in the festivities. Mrs. Florence Marshall Stote, '95, presided as toast master, I use the word master advisably, and with a spicy eloquence of the old time flavor. The next day we were shown the city schools and the college buildings, speaking at the general assembly of the college and the high school for a brief period and making calls, rounding up with a wholesome dinner at the Stotes' hospitable home.

These experiences are characteristic of the many which befell us during the two years in which we were "Seeing America." They are given thus briefly to illustrate the gratifying reception given us in almost every city we visited; for in nearly all of them we found former students or teachers from one or more of the three institutions with which we have been connected and often other old-time acquaintances and friends as well; in some places a very few, in others many, but all vying with each other in entertaining us in their homes or elsewhere. It might be well to recall the fact that approximately 20,000 different students had attended the three institutions mentioned during my connection with them, a large part of them having scattered far abroad.

Our tour after leaving Colorado included the most of the leading cities in southern Kansas and Oklahoma, in Texas, Louisiana and Florida. The second summer they included

the White Mountains five weeks, Portland, two, Boston and vicinity, six, New Haven and Hartford a few days, New York three weeks, Philadelphia and Washington nearly four months.

In all the places visited, I studied school administration and the colleges with some degree of care and thus enlarged my knowledge of the educational facilities of our country in no small degree. I greatly enjoyed meeting prominent school and college men and women here and there and had additional pleasure in addressing a score or more of school, college and other educational assemblies. I discovered that my little books, especially "*The Study of the Child*" had already opened the way for me in many places.

The length of time spent in the larger cities permitted us long coveted leisure in becoming better acquainted with their art museums, libraries, public parks, places of historic interest, public buildings, civic institutions, industrial and commercial enterprises, religious and philanthropic organizations and community problems in general, which were always improved.

Historic New Orleans so well exploited by the romancers added greatly to our enjoyment of a month's visit in that most interesting city of the South-land. Our hotel window on St. Charles street gave us a rare view of the Mardi Gras pageants and festivals—without which one can hardly say he has seen the Crescent City. Of course our National Capital is the most beautiful and interesting city in America and a few months there, especially during congressional sessions are always profitable and enjoyable to an American citizen.

We were followed up in our tours with telegrams and letters of greetings and felicitations from good friends in Decatur and Millikin as anniversaries and festal days recurred, which kept our hearts mellow in grateful appreciation, responding in telepathic messages to the senders akin only to those sent to our children's homes. A wire from the Millikin senior class caught us in the Rocky Mountains as we were flying back to Kansas for the Mid-October anniversary and also one from it on commencement day 1914 gave us special gratification. The Christmas holiday reminders came in a great shower from all directions—all of these things making us think that perhaps we had not been living in vain.

Some of the messages lamented the conditions at Millikin and urged our early return. Our uniform reply was patience and sympathetic cooperation with the new administration as the only thinkable course. It was these appeals however which gave us courage to respond to the official call to resume the helm again when it came.

Tho our health in the main had been good while on the

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tour, both of us were suddenly stricken in Washington in March with its notorious malarial grip, which soon seriously threatened to terminate in pneumonia or bronchitis. A fortnight's superb nursing and a month's wise medical treatment at last put us safely on the road to recovery and daily sunbaths completed the job enabling us to start west late in April. Tho with some misgivings on the part of our solicitous physician, we risked an afternoon with the hospitable family of W. M. Davidson, '86 K. S. N. S. superintendent of the city schools at Pittsburg, Pa., and felt stronger for it, reaching Decatur considerably improved.

The automobile which met us at the train, landed us without delay or ceremony at the Mills pleasant home at Oak Crest where a week's fresh air, royal diet and good cheer confirmed the health proposition for us even tho we were graciously entertained in other homes and saw much company. Our reception at the Millikin chapel hour was also most cordial, but our destination was Watonga, Okla., our daughter Kittie's home.

We had not been there long when a telegram came saying "You have been elected President Emeritus and Acting President of Decatur College pending the selection of a permanent president. Conference desired at our expense."

While naturally greatly appreciating the compliment and the confidence shown me, I was slow to reach a decision until I could become conversant with the whole situation and particularly with the attitude of the various interests involved. The committee from the Board of Managers, Messrs. L. A. Mills, W. M. Wood and H. W. McDavid, afforded me every possible facility for getting the desired information which I supplemented with personal interviews sufficiently numerous to warrant a formal joint meeting with the Board of Managers, the resident Trustees of the University and the Trustees of the Millikin Estate.

After a frank canvass of the situation, I told them that I was not conscious of any virtue on my part which would enable me alone to bring order out of the regrettable confusion existing, but that if they thought that all the various groups interested in Millikin would rally around me as a center and cooperate with me in an effort to rehabilitate it, I was disposed to accept the position offered me. Having received generous affirmative assurance on that point, we discussed necessary details and without a formal vote it was understood that a minimum of two years would be required for accomplishing the ends desired and for securing a permanent executive officer, I was asked to begin as soon as convenient to

develop plans for the summer's campaign for students and to secure instructors for anticipated vacancies.

Having however an engagement to deliver the semi-centennial address to the alumni of the Kansas State Normal School on the evening of June 1, I met Mrs. Taylor and daughter Kittie there and we were plunged at once into a full program of festivities appropriate to the occasion. Being housed in the charming home of President and Mrs. Butcher, we were always in the center of things and were walking on "the top o' the morning" every hour of the day.

On the first evening we were part of an Albert Taylor Hall dramatic art audience which altho it occupied every foot of available space easily recognized us with a hearty greeting as we entered.

I had anticipated a similar audience the next evening for my address and was much cast down as we walked to the rostrum to find perhaps two hundred vacant chairs in the center of the lower auditorium floor and remarked to President Butcher that an alumni address did not seem to draw as well as a comedy. He merely replied: "They will likely fill up later."

Seated with us were the first principal of the school, Hon. Lyman B. Kellogg, and my immediate successor Jasper N. Wilkinson. Deft fingers started a march on the piano and immediately a bright company of little girls from the Model School slipped in and around us with exquisite bouquets for us. Without delay a long column of Alumni came in from the west corridor, each vying with the other in covering us with flowers—love tokens in a grateful shower. All of us blushed and bowed and smiled properly and as we sat the vacant chairs were filled. The address over and greetings ended, reminiscent dreams filled out the night and a great assembly gathered in the morning to hear the inspiring commencement oration by Principal Kellogg whom we all named our most honored guest.

The program for the Alumni banquet following was ideal in design and execution and was a fitting climax to the week and to the half century of brilliant accomplishments. As each went his way, blessings of others followed him and heart-felt benedictions from all fell upon Alma Mater.

On my return to Decatur, I had a frank personal conference with retiring President Fellows and we soon were fully understanding each other and thus the way opened for me to acquaint myself better with the situation and to make preliminary plans for work during the summer vacation. The many expressions of delight at my return from all classes of people

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with assurances of cooperation made the coming task much easier than it would otherwise have been.

The general conditions of my return have already been mentioned. Others made it possible, among them the repeated expressions of regret by the former president of the Board of Managers that he had been so far deceived and misled by some whom he trusted that his course had led to my resignation which had proved unfortunate for all concerned; the assurance on behalf of those he represented that I should have unrestricted liberty in the management of the College as provided in the charter of the University and the cordial support of the Trustees of the Millikin Estate in an effort to recover and maintain lost ground, that cooperation to include the financial allowance necessary for accomplishing it.

As a result of active canvassing and generous cooperation from the students the slump in the attendance was stopped, a score of salaries raised, additional equipment purchased, a new spirit manifested itself everywhere and the year ended with a neat balance in the treasury as against a considerable deficit the preceding year.

The entrance of the United States into the European war, in April caused many of our boys to enlist, but under our advice the major part of those desiring to do so continued in their studies until they were called into the officers training camps at Ft. Sheridan or elsewhere in May or early June. In spite of this exodus the graduating class in June was about forty-five and the total enrollment in all departments 1105, an increase of more than three hundred over the year preceding my return.

War's alarms and the urgent calls for vast armies together with the selective draft system inaugurated to increase them threatened to depopulate the colleges and universities of the country for the year 1917-18. From the first the National Government had found it necessary to employ college men from the faculties and from the student bodies in increasing numbers to assist it in scores of departments, civil and military, in enlisting, equipping, training and mobilizing its armies and yet realizing the danger ahead in case practically all the young men should forsake the College walls, it issued a hurry-up call for the college presidents to assemble in Washington for a conference on the untoward situation. Some eighty institutions were represented and after much deliberation it was agreed that the government on its part would use its great influence to induce the young men to continue in college and high school preparing for the more efficient service they could

later give as the urgency became greater and on their part that the colleges should modify their courses so far as possible in order to anticipate the government requirements later and thus contribute to increased efficiency in the various arms of the public service.

The result was that the combined appeals of the National Government and the educational institutions generally resulted in stabilizing the atmosphere and the enrollment in most of them was not so seriously reduced as at first feared. The advanced classes lost most of their men everywhere, but the lower ones held their own quite well. The total enrollment at Millikin was slightly in excess of the previous year. The finances showed the same satisfactory balance as before.

Before the declaration of war on the part of the United States, the increased demand for wireless and radio operators and telegraphers had prompted us to provide facilities in both lines and many students inside and outside college entered the special courses offered. Aerials were installed for radio work and great was the disappointment afterwards that the Government found it necessary to order all radio apparatus dismantled even tho Millikin had been named as an authorized school of instruction by it. No persuasion could reinstate us, not even when orders were later given us to organize a class of designated drafted men for elementary instruction anticipating their transportation elsewhere for advanced work as prepared for it.

The old time Battalion was reorganized in the spring of 1917 and two good companies under the command of Doctors Meek and Kellogg, whose military training at Toronto and at Cornell University in their college days had happily fitted them for such an emergency. Aided by the advice of some experienced ex-military men in the city, the drills accomplished surprisingly good results, which proved most profitable to many of the boys as they entered the Fort Sheridan Officers Training Camp, The Great Lakes Station, and service elsewhere.

So generously and universally had the colleges supplied students and instructors in response to urgent calls for capable men for service in a great variety of lines and so acceptable had they been found far above the average volunteers and drafted men, that the government offered every possible inducement to college men generally to come to its relief in the portentous conflict which it was facing. The wave of patriotism thus aroused was heightened by the lowering of the age limits for enlistment and for the draft and threatened to depopulate the advance high school and the college classes

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everywhere to such an extent that it almost produced a panic among educational authorities in general.

Appeal after appeal was issued by national officers, civil and military, for the young men to remain in school and college and fit themselves for greater efficiency when they would be more urgently needed later on. Military training as a part of the curricula was encouraged under government assistance. It soon became evident however that the exigencies of the situation demanded a more compact and efficient organization in order to insure the highest possible results at the earliest practicable moment and hence the students Army Training Corps was organized to be jointly in charge of the war department and the colleges with a Unit of not less than one hundred physically fit students in each institution.

The department of Education and Special Training called conferences with college authorities from all parts of the country for the purpose of outlining the plan and giving definite instructions for its execution. In brief, it included an organized unit in each college under the supervision of an experienced commanding officer with certain designated periods each day and week for military training with correlated college courses under the supervision of the college authorities, the general management and control of the soldier students to be shared by both.

The colleges were asked to meet certain academic requirements in the way of buildings, equipment, instructors and curricula and provide the necessary buildings and equipment for housing and feeding the students in conformity with plans and specifications furnished by the committee. While the encampment was to be under military control and discipline, the colleges were to provide subsistence tho at the government's expense.

The students were to be inducted into the United States Army and subject to active service on call. Subsistence and lodging, full equipment, and medical care were to be provided at the expense of the government and all were to be paid the usual salary of a private soldier, thirty dollars per month. A college education with all expenses paid and such wage in addition together with a prospect of a commission at no distant day proved talismanic and throngs of young men rushed to the colleges from all directions, many wiring or phoning for reservations lest there be no room for them as they appeared. We were approved and granted a Unit by the committee and asked for two hundred students, but so great was the number reporting under the stimulating and attractive advertising done by us, most enthusiastically supplemented by the Deca-

tur Association of Commerce, that we soon offered to care for four hundred, which limit was so fully assured ere long that we were asked to take seventy-five more. I was unwilling to attempt to care for so many however, for I was satisfied that we could not do it thoroly well with our facilities, even tho we had increased them materially in equipment and teaching force.

For such a large number it became necessary for us to erect six two-story barracks in accord with war department plans, and a mess hall to seat about five hundred in case of an emergency. We decided to utilize our fine gymnasium for officers' quarters, general assembly and toilet purposes, which would require an expenditure of several thousand dollars for extra plumbing, etc. Having no funds to provide all these accommodations which we figured would cost at least thirty thousand dollars, but being assured of reimbursement in the end by the government, we appealed for assistance to the Board of Directors of the Association of Commerce which promptly appointed a committee to cooperate with us. This committee solicited endorsement of our obligations and easily secured the names of forty citizens guaranteeing one thousand dollars each, the city banks readily agreeing to advance the money as needed. I felt extremely gratified at this mark of confidence in our business management and tho there were some ominous predictions of the outcome, we had the pleasure of refunding every cent of the loan which, including interest amounted to nearly thirty thousand dollars, part of it coming from the sale of barracks and equipment.

The national committee was overwhelmed with applications of colleges and the vastness of the work incident to the inauguration of an enterprise involving 600 of them and 150,000 young men seeking enrollment and assignment, and hence distressing delay followed in scores of cases in the approval of plans and contracts for the erection of buildings and the installation of equipment. But with five hundred students on hands awaiting housing and the barracks hardly started a perplexing problem confronted us. The National Council of Defense came to our rescue and thru its active assistance we soon had offers of more rooms than needed in the homes of the good people of the city, without money and without price. It was, however, but another spontaneous expression of good will and patriotism so characteristic of our friends here. They found the boys generally most appreciative of their hospitality and the experience was mutually enjoyable.

It took from two to three weeks to finish all the barracks and open the big mess hall. The boys had in the meantime

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taken their meals in various places being reimbursed later for the same after October, by the government. The number actually inducted was 405.

The process of adjustment to the new situation moved forward rapidly tho not as happily as it might have been had the commanding officer been less arrogant in his attitude toward the college authorities. He was a fine drill-master but ere long demonstrated his utter inability to adapt himself to our environment and I went to headquarters at Washington, quickly securing his transfer and the assignment of a different type of man in his place. The effect of the pernicious influence of the former officer was not so easily eliminated however for it occasionally revealed itself to the end.

His successor, tho not so good a drill-master, more fully represented the policy of the committee and strove to cooperate with the college in maintaining its ideals and in making men of high personal character as well as good soldiers. His officers caught his spirit and the life of the camp was soon greatly improved.

We had hardly settled down again to our work, the readjustment having practically lost us a fortnight's time, when an epidemic of influenza struck us, quickly carrying off two of our young men and compelling a suspension of the S. A. T. C. classes for a month together with a quarantine around the campus for the same period. Then came the armistice which threw the whole Unit into a fever of unrest in anticipation of early demobilization.

The order for examinations and final demobilization on December 21 came at last and officers and men began preparing for it with evident satisfaction, social functions multiplied and discharge papers kept many clerks and typewriters busy to insure every soldier boy time to reach home for Christmas. A parting word at chapel and jolly talks from the officers at closing mess, sent each one off to his home conscious of an experience that was fully worth while, and with few exceptions a healthier, stronger and more dependable citizen of the Republic.

We have often been asked whether the experiment was a success. From a scholastic point of view it could hardly be so considered. To my mind however, the difficulty was inherent to the method of organization and the inability of the military officers in charge to adapt it to a college situation and to a college atmosphere. The curriculum and schedule together with the plan of joint administration submitted to us at Fort Sheridan was in the main consistent, understandable, and feasibly elastic, but the hasty revision following already

mentioned, bore many evidences of patchwork under military dictation with little regard for the fundamentals so clearly dominating the initiation of the scheme. I am convinced that the dissatisfaction so prevalent among college men would not have arisen had these changes not been made.

In leaving this subject, I wish to express my abiding appreciation of the many courtesies shown us by the members of The National Committee and the officials assigned to the work of its various administrative departments. They had a great task to perform in a time-limit wholly insufficient for its accomplishment. Had not peace cut short its career, the verdict on the S. A. T. C. might have been entirely different. Its aims were lofty and patriotic, worthy of the nation and the hour in which its conception was born. We would not have missed the opportunity to have our part in it for all that it cost and many times over. It has given the college a place, a mission, a vision in our country's seething, on-rushing life that will increase its usefulness far beyond that which it has ever exerted before.

The comprehensive nature of Millikin's organization and the variety of courses already making up its curricula enabled us to adjust ourselves to the courses laid down by the committee much more readily than most colleges and demonstrated the ability of a college of the modern type to meet the multi-phase demands of our times. About a third of the Unit continued thru a part or all the rest of the college year and a goodly per cent of the remainder returned as the next year opened. They contributed much in perpetuating the increasing virile spirit entering into the life of the college with the coming of the training unit.

The process of settling up with the committee from the war department was somewhat prolonged as we were required to await our turn among the colleges with training units, but the final adjustment including the disposal of the buildings and equipment was in the main very satisfactory, the official adjustor expressing himself as much pleased with our financial management of the Unit as shown by our books and reports, great credit for which is due our painstaking, conscientious auditor, Mr. C. W. Dyer, who from the opening of the college in 1903 has so efficiently served as secretary and auditor, now comptroller.

The rare spirit and enthusiastic cooperation of the members of the board of managers throughout the encampment insured its success from the first, while on the scholastic side the members of the faculty vied with each other in conscientious devotion to their trust.

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The opening of the following college year in September showed that the reaction of the World-war included an increased appreciation of the value of higher education, the enrollment in the high schools and colleges being greatly in excess of any previous year.

I had occasionally reminded our College Board of the fact that my return in 1915 was understood to be until such time as the affairs of the college assumed a normal condition and a satisfactory president could be secured. A committee on the subject was finally appointed of which I was *ex officio* a member, but it did not seem to make much progress, tho approaching some excellent men who however proved unavailable.

In 1918, Dr. J. C. Hessler was appointed dean of the college with a view to relieving me of some detail work as much of my time was required in connection with the new endowment campaign for increasing our interest bearing funds one million dollars in response to the proposition of the trustees of the Millikin estate, a culmination of my executive relationship for which I had long been hoping. That was progressing finely under the direction of a most competent citizen's committee, and yet the fiscal year was nearing its close and no successor had been found.

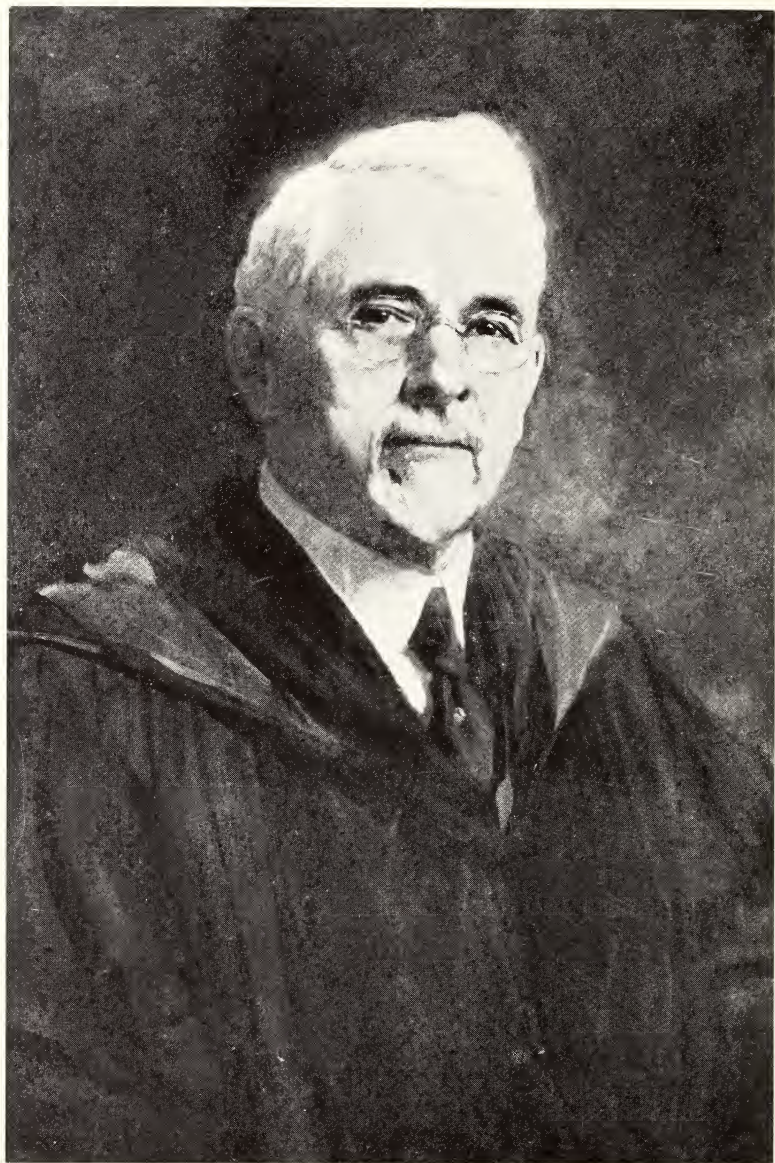
Thinking my resignation as Acting President might facilitate the process and realizing the advisability of relief from the onerous duties of the office, I asked the board to excuse me from further service at the end of the college year in June, 1919. At a full meeting of the Managers and the resident Trustees of the University, my request was granted with personal and formal expressions of appreciation of my services in the organization and development of the institution together with the tender of a generous pension.

On August 20, 1917, our beloved Dr. John E. Rouse died suddenly on his vacation at Berkley, California, leaving his estate in trust with A. H. Mills and myself for the benefit of the Decatur College, specifically to endow a chair of Philosophy. We used the income as directed and in October, 1919, sold profitably the real estate in our hands investing the proceeds in additional notes and bonds. The total accumulated principal and interests was about forty thousand dollars, which we transferred to the Millikin Trust Company in perpetuity as authorized and instructed by the county court in January, 1922. The Board of Managers authorized the erection of the memorial tablet in the main lobby.

For much of the time after the opening of the college, the College Commission or the Board of Managers had an agent

in the field canvassing for funds and incidentally for students also, my time being given chiefly to administrative work, for I insisted that the principal thing for us to do in the first decade was to build up an institution which would command the confidence of our friends and of the church at large, thus insuring reliable patronage as well as liberal financial support. As explained elsewhere I improved every opportunity, however to interest people of means in our behalf.

The Williams Fund for aiding poor and deserving students, now amounting to about \$250,000, came through negotiations with me by Mr. Hobart Williams' representative, and was secured in perpetuity to the college by me in correspondence and personal conference with him and his trust company's secretary. That fund has already proved a great blessing to many hundred deserving students and with its accumulating feature will care for increasing numbers with each recurring year. It was one of the most notable things of the kind ever done in this country for his benefaction included a similar amount for four other Illinois colleges, thus totaling over one and a quarter million dollars. As they were founded nearly half a century before Millikin, it was a graceful recognition of its growth and standing in the college world.



THE HUBBELL PORTRAIT, DECATUR, ILLINOIS

The Institute of Civic Arts

Mrs. Millikin's will in 1913 set apart the family homestead for art purposes and at the request of the trustees of her estate I improved the opportunities afforded us to study the various art institutes and galleries on our two-year vacation with a view of suggesting an organization and method of carrying out her wishes to make it serve as a community asset for Decatur. Tho much pleased at my report on the subject, they were unable to finance it on my return.

As the war was closing however, a few interested friends joined me in formulating a plan out of which the present Decatur Institute of Civic Arts was finally organized in 1919 in close accord with my suggestions. A board of nine directors was elected whose ideals and enthusiasm in the movement at once insured its success. I was honored with the presidency for many years and am now President Emeritus and a director. Desiring to test the possibility of awakening sufficient interest in the community to sustain such an enterprise, it was mutually thought wise for her trustees to lease the homestead to us for a period of years as an experiment. They agreed to contribute twenty five hundred dollars each year and later three thousand for expenses, as we raised at least a similar amount. This we have succeeded in doing for many years with sufficient margin in membership fees to purchase valuable paintings, etc., and to maintain the building and grounds in an attractive condition.

The exhibits and entertainments under its auspices have already aroused a loyal clientage and its possibilities as a distinct educative factor in the development of the civic life of this part of central Illinois is clearly recognized. The local organizations alined with it are being reinforced by others and we have faith in its continued usefulness in a rapidly increasing sphere. The value of the property including a small endowment is easily \$100,000.

In 1923 the Art Institute and the University jointly employed Mr. H. S. Hubbell, a leading New York artist, to paint my portrait agreeing to share alternately in its possession. This was a very gracious expression of their goodwill which we naturally appreciate greatly.

Part VI

Millikin a Third Time 1924

Some untoward circumstances called me back again to the acting presidency of Millikin, on May 1, 1924.

An accumulation of grievances between two members of the faculty and the Board of Managers resulting from the disposition of the former to persistently ignore the well known wishes of the latter, regarding certain policies brought a crisis, which was precipitated by the Board's refusal to re-employ them for the following year.

The Dean resented the action as overriding his pre-rogative as acting President and declined to serve further in that capacity, tho urged by the Board not to decide so hastily. He declared his action irrevocable and left the room.

The contracts for the other members of the faculty were authorized, but the news of the action regarding the others aroused intense feeling among their intimate friends in the faculty and the student body, one of them being very popular in his classes generally. A mass meeting of students was called, and after a discussion of the matter, an advisory committee was appointed, and a walk-out authorized pending a report from it after a conference with the Board.

Tho giving the Committee respectful hearing, the Board declined to rescind its action, as it did also in response to a communication signed by a small minority of the faculty asking for a rehearing of the case of the two in question. The walk-out was on then in earnest, and the afternoon of Saturday was largely occupied by the Board in discussing the methods of procedure, being conscious of the gravity of the situation, and desirous of avoiding further friction if possible.

I was called up from my home and asked for an interview. In reaching the office, I was given a little insight into the matter and requested to assume the duties of Acting President. Of course I was greatly surprised and slow to accept, but

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polled the members separately, each one assuring me that it was his personal desire that I should do so if I felt that my health would permit. After consulting Mrs. Taylor I answered affirmatively.

The arrangement was soon known in college circles and published in both Sunday morning papers. As we were at breakfast our next neighbor came in with a message which he had found on the front lawn and stated that as he and his wife came in late the evening before, a red cross was aflame above our hedge, which they extinguished. The message read—"Do not accept the position. We are with the students. Beware! K. K. K."

We took it as a student prank, but in either case, it did not disturb us and I was at my post on time Monday morning. Few classes usually met in the forenoon anyhow, so the afternoon attendance showed the real situation as reported by the instructors, all of whom were practically conducting their classes as usual.

Chapel exercises on Tuesday revealed at least a two-thirds absence out of nearly six hundred. I counseled order and discretion on the part of everybody, appealing to the students to avoid any excesses for the sake of the good name of the College and of their own interests.

At a called meeting of the faculty in the afternoon, I made a similar appeal, and insisted that the outcome rested with them or even with half a dozen or so whose names I could easily call, and hoped they would exert their influence for a return of the absent students. Several of them came to see me and insisted that they were mis-represented.

In the meantime, a committee from the alumni, including a few from outside the city, appeared before the Board and after a friendly discussion over matters submitted several propositions along with those presented by the Walk-out Students' Committee at a conference the day before. They soon learned that the citizens and the local alumni generally were in accord with the Board in its attitude in the matter, and at the conference following they announced that they would not support the request for the restoration of the members of the faculty in question, nor for the rescinding of the actions of the Board relating to the walk-out but desired affirmative response on a proposition for closer relationship of the student body and the alumni, with reference to matters of common interest in the future. They were assured that the Board would at all times be pleased to give sympathetic consideration to matters presented by them as well as by the faculty, a thing which

in reality they had always been ready to do and had done in the past.

On Saturday morning the students' steering committee met in conference with me and asked on what conditions they might return. I replied that I had been greatly pleased with the general lack of disorder and the discretion shown by them during the walk-out, and that they could resume their work on the following conditions:

(a) That their absences would not be excused nor counted as cuts.

(b) They would however be allowed to make up their lessons at times convenient to their instructors, and

(c) That the members of the faculty would not discount their personal rank on account of the course they had pursued.

This I reduced to writing assuring them of my personal confidence in their intentions to do the right thing.

Public announcement of the acceptance of the conditions was made, and at a students' convocation on Monday following resumption of classes and other college activities was voted. Practically all of them returned promptly, and all student's functions were formally resumed, rounding out Commencement week with the usual inspiring exercises, a most gratifying out-come of a very distressful situation.

The Board reaffirmed its long-time attitude as set forth in its recent communications with the alumni, students and faculty committees, thus helping to clarify the atmosphere and quicken mutual confidence.

I continued to act as President of the College representing it at the General Assembly conference with the General Education Board at Grand Rapids in May and in a special conference with the members of the Illinois Synod's committee on some of our problems.

In my absence the Board of Managers elected Dr. Mark E. Penney of the Ohio State University to the vacant presidency by a unanimous vote. As he did not wish to assume the duties of his office until September, I continued to act in that capacity until that time selecting new members of the faculty for vacancies occurring, looking after the advertising, and all other necessary matters. I frequently communicated with him, but he was indisposed to advise me much holding that I was better informed than he concerning the most of them.

The erection of various homes and the construction and equipment of the extensive additions to the State Normal School and the superb group of buildings of the University at Decatur and the fine administration building at Lincoln, to-

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gether with the attention required by several other business interests kept me quite well in touch with the commercial world and aided much in the quick erection of the necessary accommodations for the S. A. T. C. Unit in 1917.

The financial and executive management of the large and growing institutions of learning which I served as president involving an outlay of several million dollars and the supervision of nearly twenty thousand different students, including the piloting of necessary appropriation and important educational bills thru the legislature, and the cultivation of patronizing fields thru visitations and lectures innumerable, to say nothing of the exacting duties as a member of the State Board of Education in Kansas for nineteen years, as a member and official of state and national educational associations, of the Presbyterian General Assembly's Brotherhood Council and Committee on religious education with active official responsibilities in all of them, as well as in many others, left me little time for cultivating laziness.

The social life of the young people in our early home community was dominated largely by that simplicity and cordiality so characteristic of the Friends and their pastimes were somewhat limited in scope tho not in enjoyment for a happier lot is seldom found. Gatherings at the homes usually included children in arms and the old folk as well with fun for everybody inside and outside the house. Lyceums, spelling matches, singing schools, ball games, picnics, anniversaries, nutting, berrying, fishing, marketing, horseback riding, fairs, elections, etc., afforded recreation aplenty on week days, while Sunday mornings were devoted to Sunday-School and church and the afternoons to social visits with big dinners which nobody cared to miss. The day often brought welcome guests from far away who added spice to such occasions.

All classes were great readers and did not lack for something to talk about. This made them very progressive in all phases of their busy lives, in their home equipment, their cooking, farming, road-building, stock raising, their schools and in their politics. They were among the first to secure rural mail delivery, to install windmills and the telephone with a local central in a country home using barbed wire fence for communication, to fit up their houses and barns with all manner of modern conveniences, to establish a consolidated school, the first in the West and to cooperate with the national relief associations in the Civil and World wars. The educative and stimulative effect of such an atmosphere on young people can easily be appreciated.

At Wenona a Cumberland Presbyterian Church was or-

ganized, my father being elected elder and Rev. S. R. Shull and Rev. S. E. Hudson in succession its pastor. An attractive building was erected and well furnished for those days, 1863. Rev. Leroy Woods, a most able and lovable man, served as pastor for nearly ten years, his estimable family being invaluable additions to our flock and to the social life of the town. Later I served in various capacities in the Sunday-school acting as the superintendent in the absence of that officer. A reed organ, located in the middle of the auditorium in deference to my father's wishes, formed the nucleus for the choir of young people which I usually led, the efficient and popular organist being Frances Minerva Dent, to whom its cohesion and usefulness was largely due. Most of our family were natural musicians and sang in it for a long time. My mother of course with her large family was deeply interested in the congregation's growth tho active participation in it was delayed until her brood began to scatter.

The town was not able to support so many churches, and the United Presbyterians ceased to hold regular services about 1870. The Cumberland lost many members by death and migration, and after a heroic struggle in which my father long served as elder, janitor, and paymaster for it too, closed its doors tho opened occasionally to visiting preachers of other denominations. The building was at last sold to W. E. Monser to become a Men's Club House for social and religious purposes.

I do not recall that my father was ever a party to a lawsuit of any kind, so careful was he to live out the life he professed in business as well as in personal relations. His example had its effect upon me for during my whole life I have been equally free from litigation so trial lawyers would have poor picking if all citizens needed them no more than we did. I never served on a jury and was summoned but once. That was in a whiskey case in which the saloon-keeper's lawyer excused me unceremoniously. After I became a teacher I was exempt from jury duty however.

One of the most encouraging features of my work at Millikin was the confidence and loyalty of my former Lincoln students as shown in the large number who sent their sons and daughters to us for their college courses,—grandchildren, Mrs. Taylor and I always called them,—a whole brood coming in many cases. Nearly 200 of them came in the first decade, earnest consecrated spirits constant reminders of their forbears and of our happy years with them in their aspiring days. Including their relatives and personal friends who came to Millikin with them, the number swelling the enroll-

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ment from that source was certainly double that named above. And so thruout the years to come that same vital stream will continue to enter its walls and pass out imbued with its lofty spirit to kindred consecrated service.

I have had occasion to say that I was poorly prepared to become a college instructor both on account of the elementary character of my scholastic knowledge and of my lack of experience. Had I known that it was to be my life work, I am sure that my preparation for it would have been far more intensive and comprehensive. One thing I did possess—a reverence for the dignity of the calling which soon set me on fire with an enthusiasm that has never waned. What I lacked in knowledge I made up in zeal that was sufficiently contagious to quicken my students generally to try to keep up with me in my studies in the increasingly larger fields of investigation which I felt I owed to myself and to them.

Consciousness of my limitations also forced me to a more thorough preparation of each day's lessons which gave them a freshness and originality that made the recitations more enjoyable to myself and to my classes. This begat a confidence in my ability which association with other science teachers of some reputation increased considerably. At first I was consumed by a fear that some of my students might discover how little I knew, but I was not long in learning that frankness is the best policy and asked for time to inform myself further if necessary. That same spirit gave them zest that made us fellow students working together.

That lack of confidence in myself which drove me to college has however, always remained with me, embarrassing me at times more than my friends have seemed to appreciate. It included a diffidence in social life and on the platform that I have never entirely overcome. I have found much satisfaction, however, in the confessions of many men of great attainments, even such as Henry Ward Beecher, Isaac Newton and others.

I found the completion of the Quarter-Centennial History of the University was a much larger job than I had anticipated and was frequently impressed with the fact that more space than I had intended to give to The Story of Mr. Millikin's Life than was advisable in it. I therefore conferred with Dr. S. E. McClelland, chairman of the Trustees of the Millikin estate, with reference to its publication in a separate volume and as I was wishing to make a long intended visit to the homesteads of my parents in localities near the Millikin homes in Pennsylvania, suggested that if desired I could also make a somewhat exhaustive study of the early forbears of our

James Millikin in Washington county and elsewhere, with a view of discovering the influences which conspired to make him the man he was and to prompt his generous benefactions.

He and his associates approved it and his Life-Story is the result. It contains much valuable material gathered in that county and in the records in Philadelphia, New York and Boston. Its reception and appreciation was very gratifying, the graduating class of that year assuming the expense of its publication.

While in that part of Pennsylvania with Brownsville as headquarters, I made several trips to various localities as explained in the following memoranda: On arriving there in the afternoon I called on a Mr. Samuel E. Taylor, president of the leading bank, with whom I had had some correspondence relating to my trip and who had placed himself at my disposal. Following his advice I spent the afternoon interviewing several persons named by him and secured much valuable information from them and some county histories placed at my service by a Mr. Risbeck, whose memory included stories of LaFayette's last visit to America.

As I had heard much about the city from my early days, I was keenly interested in every thing I saw. The main business part is on the east side of the Monongahela river and hangs down along a few terraces to the water's edge, where runs the Pittsburg railway. It is covered with quite a mixture of old-time buildings and perhaps a score or more of the modern type. Three good bank buildings tower above the others several stories in height; that of the Taylors costing half a million dollars. The first main street of stores, hotels, garages, cafes, etc. is perhaps nearly a dozen blocks long, a few cross streets and alleys running up the hillside. The usual low and semi-dilapidated buildings along the bank of old river towns generally are a plenty there.

On the upper terraces a large proportion of the residences are of the better sort an especially fine one not being infrequent. The population is about 6,000. A fine dam with wide docks has long made it an important shipping point. 50,000 tons of coal pass down the river in barges every day. Its hotels are inexcusable. The one at which I stopped was built over a century and a half ago and is in a neighborhood of equally ancient structures.

It was a great boat and ship-building center in the early day and in the wars of 1812, 1846, 1861 and 1917-19, and it is a very busy and progressive burg today. It was from this port that Uncle Eli Mills and Captain Herman Price ran their

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boat to the West and also where our forebears embarked for Hennepin, Illinois in 1839-42.

I made a special effort to get definite information concerning some Kimber relatives but only old Risbeck could recall any one of that name and he said one of them ran a little bake-shop in West Brownsville probably 80 years ago which was famous for its ginger cookies and beer. My grandfather Taylor and his son, Uncle Charles, were boat-carpenters there but of the many of that name living in that vicinity now, none of our tribe is in evidence at this time.

The next morning Mr. Taylor picked me up in his fine auto and we were soon spinning thru West Brownsville over the river and hills to Centerville some six or more miles away where his ancestors lived and where he was born. My mother's brothers and sisters, children of Joseph and Sarah Railey Mills were also born near by, and we were soon in the large stone house from which they migrated to Illinois. It is beautifully located on the crest of a little knoll overlooking a charming valley with many interesting vistas up and down the rolling hills far away. That house is reputed to have been erected by my grandfather Joseph Mills in 1824. Before moving west, he was for some years superintendent of the West Brownsville glass works. It must have been a prosperous business for he was robbed of some \$500 at one time, a big sum for those days.

Of course I examined carefully the thick stone walls in the old Mills house and walked reverently through it winding up at the clear and wholesome spring near by. I knocked some apples off unkempt trees in the orchard, but they were green and hard. The Pusey family purchased it from our folks who sold it to a Mr. Griffith soon after, the young people settling in Ottawa, Illinois, and Council Bluffs, Iowa. Charles Webeck, a thrifty German farmer, now owns it. His address is West Brownsville, R. F. D.

We visited my friend Taylor's home beyond which has the same thick, substantial walls with the same interesting vistas over and across the far-reaching valleys. We tarried there awhile being highly entertained by his vivacious, gray-haired aunt, an octogenarian of the lovely old-fashioned type.

We then drove over to the West-land graveyard five miles away on the other side of Centerville where rest many of the long ago dead tho until lately no markers or tombstones had ever been placed at their graves and few can be identified now. The church to which my mother's and Samuel E. Taylor's people belonged was disbanded half a century ago and the building finally torn down. Over a score of years since

he bought the graveyard for \$51 and formed a corporation which soon greatly improved the site. It is now well covered with monuments and will be properly cared for in all the years to come, hence our great obligations to him.

We drove back to the home of a very old man by the name of Hopkins Moffett down east of Centerville. He lives in an attractive modern home near an old mill-site which quickly started me a'dreaming. He said that in his younger years he was a breeder and trader in fine horses and had driven many fast ones all over that country. Now however, his children do not permit him to drive his own automobile anywhere tho if allowed to do so he would "show them a turn or two over those hills that would quickly wake them up."

Here Mr. Taylor said that I was about ten years too late to gather the many details which I was seeking for since my correspondence with his father in 1914, many old folks who probably knew my ancestors had been called to their long home. The county histories availed little for their compilers seemingly overlooked most families whose immediate children had migrated in the great movement to the West in the earlier half of the last century.

At Ten-mile, I had access to the old Pleasant Hill church session book which is quite well preserved. The church building stands on a little knoll just outside the village. In it I discovered the names of many of our Millikins and also of the Cumberland Presbyterian church fathers familiar to me in my youth. Among them were those of Rev. Leroy Woods who married Mrs. Taylor and me, and Rev. Samuel E. Hudson, one time pastor of our Cumberland Presbyterian church at Wenona, Illinois. There was also the name of Rev. Samuel M. Aston, father of Mrs. James Millikin.

The next day I ran up to Uniontown some forty miles away through a bewildering maze of mining towns, coke ovens and factory centers, in which place my father served an apprenticeship in the tanner's trade. On arriving there, I was the welcome guest of Mr. Ewing and Miss Louise Porter, whose Aunt Isabella Murphy, became the wife of my father in 1840, but who was a victim of consumption scarcely a year afterward. Their mother, a sister of Isabella, had taught all her children to call him Uncle John and so they speak of him still for he was a great favorite among them. Aaron T. Porter, "our cousin" at Emporia, Kansas, their brother, still recognizes the kinship.

I spent the evening in their hospitable home talking over the days a'gone and securing helpful suggestions for my Fayette City trip. All the old-time tanneries are gone in that

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thriving city and no spot could be identified as having been the site of an ancient one.

As Morgantown, West Virginia, the former home of Mrs. Taylor's ancestors, was but a few hours ride up the river, I ran up there for a Sunday's visit with Miss Retta Gapen, a favorite cousin on Grand-mother Gapen Dent's side, and a former Normal student at Emporia.

On my return I went up to Fayette City, formerly Cookstown, on the Monongahela river. We had often heard our father speak of it by the latter name. There a Mr. John Brown of the City Bank kindly drove me about for a few hours. Going back over and between lovely hills and prosperous farms some three miles southwest we rounded up at the old Harmony Cumberland Presbyterian church, successor to the original erected over ninety years ago, to which our father most probably belonged. We were quickly through the dilapidated fence surrounding the cemetery adjoining, reading the inscriptions on the old slabs of which there were several dozen.

Soon I heard a cry from John and running over he read for me

"In memory of Isabella Ann Taylor, Consort of John Taylor, Who died August 12, 1841, Age 21 years and 3 days."

I could hardly believe my eyes! We traced it over and over again. I recalled that my sister Isabel's name given her at birth, was Isabella. She dropped the last two letters in her teens. I trembled with joy and sought for more. We then read the inscription on a duplicate stone at the left.

"In memory of Ellenor I. Murphy, Daughter of Isaac and Nancy Murphy, Died July 1, 1841."

She was a sister of Isabella.

I was satisfied and sent John to turn his auto toward the city thus leaving me alone. I then gathered a cluster of beautiful wild flowers and reverently placed them on their graves with a fervent prayer of thanksgiving, bowing in silent communion for a blessing upon all of my dear ones as I slowly walked away.

Fayette, like Brownsville, looks as old as the hills along the terraces near the river, but quite modern above. The country round about is very beautiful and shows prosperity and contentment. Practically all the coal under it has been sold at princely prices by those holding out for them.

At Pittsburg I was delightfully entertained at the hospitable home of Supt. W. M. Davidson and family. He asked

me to speak to his high school and grade principals, perhaps one hundred and fifty in number, introducing me with complimentary words aplenty. I spoke on "The Teacher as a Superman," and was given close attention and generous applause. He also introduced me to his board of education to whom I spoke for a few minutes, being most cordially received. It gratified me greatly to find him so highly esteemed by all classes. He has accomplished most notable things at Pittsburg following a most successful career as superintendent of the Washington, D. C. schools, thus highly honoring his alma mater, the Kansas State Normal School and the class of 1886.

The objective point in the East was North Marshfield, Mass., where I had an enjoyable visit with my brother Joe's family leaving them well as I left for Boston. There I made a rich find in the city library in the shape of a large Millikin Genealogical book that I duplicated also in the New York library the next day.

The next four months were spent in San Diego, Los Angeles, Pasadena and Long Beach meeting scores of old friends, —everywhere receptions, luncheons, dinners, etc. being given us by former Lincoln, Kansas Normal and Millikin alumni. With several enjoyable stops and calls on our return home we reached Decatur in time for the University commencement festivities and resumed our places in its community life verifying again the old story,—There's no place like home,—this too tho considering ourselves highly favored and blest in the multitude of devoted friends reaching from ocean to ocean.

Other years have passed quickly, both of us being favored with fair health, and I have given considerable time to the revision of the manuscript for the Quarter-Centennial History of The James Millikin University, the publication of The Life Story of James Millikin before mentioned, and in the revising of many of my papers and in finishing up this personal life-story for preservation of which this is a closing chapter.

The busy college life which we led for nearly half a century precluded much reading which we now find most engaging and profitable, both of us endeavoring to keep up in a measure with current literature and the interesting developments of our progressive modern life so marvelous in its range and results.

We are still endeavoring to take a part in the community and church life in which we never lose interest. For exercise I find our garden and lawns with daily chores are keeping me in fine fettle for which I am devoutly thankful.

Our winter months continue to be spent largely in the

AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF ALBERT REYNOLDS TAYLOR

milder climes of southern California, Louisiana and Florida where we frequently meet many alumni of our colleges who are doing their part in the world's work and who along with other good friends, old and new, find many ways to contribute to our comfort and enjoyment. The history, the romance, the local institutions always attract and engage us, so there is little time for ennui.



FRANCES MINERVA DENT TAYLOR

Mrs. Frances Minerva Dent Taylor

She is the first child of Mr. and Mrs. John O. Dent of Wenona, Illinois, and was born on December 27, 1850, in her Grandfather's farm home on Sandy Creek.

Her father's ancestors migrated from Yorkshire, England to Maryland and later to Virginia, about the middle of the XVIII century, settling in Monongalia county near Morgan's Town. Being thrifty and progressive, they played a prominent part in community affairs and bear an honorable record in the county's annals. Their names appear frequently among the civil, military, professional and business men of the time.

Enoch Dent, her grandfather, together with his brothers, James and John, and their children moved to Magnolia, Illinois, in the eighteen thirties. He had married Judith Gape of an equally well-known family in nearby Pennsylvania to whom were born Minerva, John Orville, Rawley Evans, Margaret, Marmaduke, Durley and Ellen. He purchased a farm south-east of Magnolia on the north side of Sandy Creek just west of the Meridian line later housing them all in a large brick house which is still standing. He and his wife in their declining years lived at Wenona across the road south of the John O. Dent family residence.

His eldest son, John O, attended the first country school organized on Sandy Creek and being an unusually apt pupil secured a position as a teacher ere long and while in charge of a school near Henry, Marshall county, met Harriet Frances Spencer to whom he soon offered his hand and heart and they became one on March 13, 1850. She was born in Brownington, Vermont, November 8, 1832. Thus the blood of the Cavalier and the Puritan commingled on the broad prairies of Illinois to establish an ideal western home.

Mrs. Dent's parents were Horace Spencer and Harriet Parmenter Spencer. They migrated to Henry, Marshall county, Illinois in 1846, settling on a farm a few miles west of that town they became progressive farmers and ideal citizens exerting a widespread influence for better things.

Mr. Dent early developed fine business tact and after his marriage settled on a good farm north-east of Wenona. He

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soon became interested in real estate, live-stock and nursery stock and ere long moved to town in whose up-building he at once became an active leader. Largely through his diplomacy and far-sightedness the Dwight-Lacon branch of the Chicago & Alton Railway runs through Wenona. He gave the public park on the east side to the city already an attractive shady resort. He and his brother Evans practically gave the land for the Wenona Cemetery. He also, with Colonel Plumb was an active promoter of the city of Streator, Illinois.

These things and many others show his wisdom and public spirit. He was an active Democrat serving on the board of supervisors for several terms and one term in the State Legislature. It was largely through his zeal and generosity that the Wenona Seminary was founded in the early sixties. He was an enthusiastic leader and incorporator of the Union Fair Association serving as its president and manager for two terms or more and making Wenona the center of a great forward farmers' movement for many years.

Twenty years later he became interested in orange growing and invested largely in Grove Park, Florida, in which he and Mrs. Dent made their home for many years, greatly enjoying that mild climate.

They celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on March 13, 1900, their daughter Minerva being the representative of the distant relatives tho local friends helped to make it a very happy occasion.

As they were in poor health we urged them to make their home with us at Emporia at their early convenience, which they finally consented to do, spending some time however, in visiting friends and relatives at Wenona and other places before doing so. Wherever they went they were received most cordially and their hearts were made exceedingly glad. But our joy over their coming was suddenly changed to sorrow for practically without warning Mother Dent was taken away from us at the home of her son Horace in Kansas City as they were returning to us on the night of September 30, 1900, Father Dent, broken-hearted, came on to us, the near-by children gathering for the funeral and we laid her away in our lot in Maplewood cemetery. As was his earnest desire he was not long in following her for he went to sleep on January 30, 1901

He was a man of the strictest probity, of high ideals, of far-reaching vision, wise in council, generous to a fault, a citizen without guile, a devoted father and husband worthy the unflinching love his family ever gave him.

Mrs. Dent was a woman of the rarest spirit, of unselfish

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devotion to her home and her family, beloved by all who knew her, keenly alive to her responsibility to the community of which she always considered herself an integral part, an inspiration to all classes of people. Her home was a popular center of the town's social life. It was from a similarly wholesome home that I went to it as an accepted lover.

Lovers of music often gathered in their home for practice and recitals which the parents warmly encouraged. She was the organist at the Cumberland Presbyterian church, receiving at the end of her service a handsome testimonial in the shape of a choice set of standard poetical works which she still prizes. Our own home became a similar center especially at Lincoln and Emporia while our children were with us.

So these consecrated lovers sleep side by side in Maplewood, Emporia, and are forever united in the same bonds that knit them together for half a century here.

The children of John O. Dent are lineal descendents of four Revolutionary ancestors,—Colonel John Evans, Lieutenant John Dent, Captain David Scott and Sergeant Stephen Gapen, the "Fighting Quaker", and our daughter, Mrs. J. T. Cronkhite, Wichita, Kansas is a Colonial Dame through the first named. In the Civil War the more prominent Dents in the State of Virginia led in the opposition to its secession in 1861 and joined actively in organizing the new State of West Virginia.

Tho often solicited to do so, Minerva hesitated to join The Daughters of the American Revolution on account of other demands upon her time and strength. She finally united with the Decatur Chapter on September 14, 1912, on the Dent lineage credentials and in 1926 was again recognized on the Gapen record mentioned above.

She is deeply interested in its aims and work and has served as chaplain and as ex-officio member of the local council for several years. She has attended several State Conferences, and the National Congress at Washington and is unusually well informed on its general policies and its attitudes on problems of a local, State or national nature.

She was educated in the public schools, the Wenona Seminary and the Jennings Seminary, Aurora, Illinois. Tho limiting her musical studies largely to the piano, in which she became quite proficient, she has always considered her greatest gain to be a fine discriminating taste and appreciation of the higher forms of musical composition and its artistic execution which our children inherited from her as well as from myself through my father.

She has improved every opportunity to visit the great art

galleries of this country and such exhibits as are available from time to time. Few people excel her in her love of nature in whose glories she never tires and in whose beneficence she ever sees the handiwork of the Infinite God.

She has been a habitual reader of the better class of literature which we have kept on our tables and book-shelves. Few women have as choice, up-to-date home and foreign missionary library at command as needed in study classes and special exercises on occasion. Her acquaintance and command of her Bible is not often excelled.

It has been a source of continual happiness to us that our daughters from their childhood have not only tried to live the better life but also to take an active part in community and church affairs wherever they have lived, often as capable leaders, but ever dependable workers.

At the time of the consecration and baptism of our little daughter, Jessie, her mother was also baptized on confession of a former consecration. For long years she was the instructor of a large Bible class of misses and young women many of whom still recall with gratitude the uplift it gave them. Daughter Kittie was baptized in our home at Emporia by Rev. J. M. Hubbert, our last Lincoln pastor, as he was on a visit shortly after we moved there.

During my presidential terms in Kansas and Illinois their sympathetic interest in all that pertained to it and contributed to its success never lagged thus strengthening my hands at every step. The atmosphere of our home was so like that of the average student's own home that they ever felt welcome whether in joy or in sorrow. This was more especially true of those in the advanced classes whose attendance at the get-acquainted receptions in the Fall and the formals in the Spring developed personal relationships that made government a simple problem and enjoyable friendships that last through all the years.

In the restful, sympathetic fellowship of our modest home I always have been greatly blest and whatever of success has come to me in my varied life is largely due to the wise counsel, the generous encouragement and the inspiration I ever found in it. Many of my addresses and my books have passed under helpful constructive criticism here.

A Word of Appreciation

In selecting the trustees to whom Mr. Millikin left his estate, he named three close business associates in the bank, Messrs. Orville Gorin, J. M. Brownback and S. E. Walker, and Mrs. Millikin and Dr. S. E. McClelland, a personal friend and chairman. All of them entered most sympathetically upon the administration of the trust following the general policy which he had pursued toward the University along with the oral instructions he gave them.

In 1911 they were able to erect and equip the Conservatory and Gymnasium buildings for us and later made possible some long due advances in the faculty salary list and to add materially to our library and other departmental facilities. Mr. Millikin had contributed to the college for buildings, equipment and current expenses for the first eight years nearly half a million dollars and in the nine years following his trustees allowed us as much more.

"Would it not have been better for Mr. Millikin to have willed his estate directly to the Trustees of the University?" is a question often raised by our friends. Possibly they might have managed it equally well, which I think doubtful, but when it is considered that endowment funds yielding 5 per cent are generally regarded as most wisely invested and that the amount just named was about 5.8 per cent per annum on the appraisement, aside from generous gifts to the Decatur and Macon County Hospital and other worthy local charities, his course certainly appears a most wise one. Furthermore, they are now turning over to the endowment fund nearly three quarter million dollars to complete the million additional college endowment, and still retain intact the original amount of the estate, a bit of financing most uncommon in college management. The bank stock belonging to the estate is of course a most valuable asset and insures a highly dependable income.

I wish here to express my sincere gratitude to them for the uniform courtesy shown me in our personal relations and for their deep interest in the upbuilding of the college. In the exercise of their prerogative in making nominations to

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the University Trustees for members of the Board of Managers, I always found them considering my preferences as Mr. Millikin usually had done. Few institutions of learning are more fortunate in their administrative boards.

The statistical reports of the James Millikin University at Decatur for last year were approximately as follows:

The Endowment funds including scholarships are now approximately one and three quarter million dollars.

The value of the campus, buildings and equipment is estimated conservately at over a million one hundred thousand.

The attendance of over seven hundred the first year increased to over a thousand in all departments and has varied above that year after year.

The income from all sources is now approximately a quarter million dollars.

The scholarship and self-help awards of all kinds for the last year are listed at about \$33,000.

Addenda

Addenda

The Clear Creek Cumberland Presbyterian Church was organized in 1854 with 24 members by the Rev. S. E. Hudson recently of Pennsylvania, my father being one of the original members. Others joining were also from Southwestern Penn. A comfortable house of worship was later erected and in 1874 it reported an enrollment of 40 members. The first pioneer preacher whom I remember was a Mr. Trousdale of whom my brother Joe and I were in some awe, tho while waiting our turn at the breakfast table one morning sitting on the woodbox he convulsed me by trying to sing *sotto voce* the following melody:

"All around the chimney top
The monkey chased the weasel,
The preacher kissed the cobbler's wife;
And that's the way the money goes,
Pop! goes the weasel!"

We kicked the side of the wood-box with our heels for applause, but our mother was with us instanter and suppressed us without a smile.

My father was a strong Prohibitionist from his early youth and an active member of the Sons of Temperance, the Good Templars and other organizations of a similar type. So were other members of our family and all took an active part in promoting the cause especially in the city elections. So active was he in these campaigns that he made bitter enemies among the liquor folk, tho they generally honored his fearlessness. I well remember many anxious evenings in which we awaited his home-coming. He was a fearless man and never shirked a call to duty. The margin of votes in our town was so small that the result was always uncertain, tho the prohis won perhaps over half of the time for long years.

When Professor Lyman B. Kellogg was leaving the Illinois State Normal University to go to the Kansas State School as its president, I was a student there in the Model Training School and heard him deliver his inaugural address at assembly as he said to get in practice for its delivery out in the plains. Little did I think that he would wel-

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come me there as one of his successors less than a score of years afterward and become a member of my board and one of my dearest friends and counsellors.

Before entering college at 23, I had access to comparatively few books tho they were generally of the better sort and whetted my appetite for more. At college I had little time to give to the limited range of books in our library, therefore the nature of my work forced me to cover a variety of related and extraneous reading matter in order to be of such service to my students as I desired, hence I had little respite for recreation.

In entering on administrative and lecture work in Kansas, I had still less relief for I was building up a great school for teachers in that ambitious and progressive commonwealth whose demands upon me were very exacting. I need not mention the fact that the time given to the organization, inauguration and development of The James Millikin University with its comprehensive character, blazing much of the way, left little leisure especially as I taught a senior class in addition a major part of the time. I do not speak of these limitations in a deprecatory way for they were continuous goads to more intensive reading and study in ever enlarging spheres and brought me in great measure whatever of success I attained in my life-work.

For many years the members of each Senior Class in the State Normal School of Kansas met one evening each week in our home for the purpose of reading together several different English translations of Homer's Iliad with a view of a better understanding of the original and a keener appreciation of that great classic.

As President of the State Normal School of Kansas and member of the State Board of Education, and as visitor and lecturer in all parts of the commonwealth, I was able to stimulate wide-spread interest in the development of a more efficient system of schools and higher standards for teachers thru the nineteen years of my sojourn there. I organized the Child-Study section of the State Teachers' Association, was a member of the State Text-Book Commission for a short time, was President of the State Teachers' Association one year, was the Supervisor of the Kansas Educational Exhibit at the World's Fair at Chicago in 1892 and was Vice President for Kansas of the Pan-American Exposition at Buffalo in 1901. By the courtesy of my good friends among the citizens of Emporia, I became a Life Director of the National Educational Association in 1889.

When in Kansas I was approached with offers or with requests for the consideration of the presidencies of some of the Best State Normal Schools in the West and of half a dozen colleges and universities

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but declined them all save Millikin for the sake of my ever enlarging work in Kansas tho not unmindful of the honor done me. Another attractive invitation was to the editorship of the E. L. Kellogg & Company's Educational Publications in New York in 1900. They were reaching over 300,000 teachers of all grades in all parts of the United States and the temptation to accept was not a light one.

The unprecedented attendance of students, over five hundred at the opening of The James Millikin University at Decatur called forth many enquiries about how it was done. Those from Dr. A. E. Winship, editor of The Journal of Education, Boston Mass., and Dr. Lyman Abbott the veteran Editor of the Outlook, New York, as they visited us afterwards on lecture tours showed especial interest. No one was more surprised however than Mr. Millikin himself for whom it was the happy realization of a life-dream more surprising than he had ever dared to hope.

I am occasionally asked the reason for writing the particle the before James Millikin University with the capital T. There is a reason for it, first because Mrs. Millikin requested it and also because that is its name as the Dutchman said when he was asked why he called his dog Fritz. See the charter of the institution.

One day a few years after the college was opened, an old collegian said to me that the college had been of great benefit to the city intellectually, morally, socially and commercially. At the end of the first decade the Daily Review sent out an enquiry to one hundred leading citizens asking them to name the best thing coming to Decatur in the preceding ten years. Practically all replied "The James Millikin University." In speaking of this the editor said that it was a great surprise in view of the fact that Decatur was a strictly commercial city hence they at first were very skeptical about its being a great benefit to the city as a whole.

Perhaps a score of years ago I was asked to name the books that have helped me and my reply may be worth-while inserting here.

It is not an easy thing to determine what books have helped me most. Some have instructed me and others have inspired; some have fortified me in my beliefs, others have changed them. Some have helped me to know myself, others to know my fellows; some have softened and tempered my nature, others have strengthened my faith and given me courage. Some have prepared me for appreciating other books.

The one that has touched all sides of my nature is The Book of Books. No other book compares with it in range of thought, in sublimity of expression, in grasp of the mighty problems of humanity. Next to it Shakespeare has sounded the depths of human passion and human experience so accurately, so masterfully that the Universal Man seems to be ever speaking to me helping me to see what I am and what

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I ought to be. I find little refuge behind my frailties when he speaks and am helped to see to what great heights the true man may rise.

When a young man, Prescott's *Peru* and Plutarch's *Lives* opened my eyes and set me to dreaming dreams and seeing visions. Lamartine's *Lives* served the same purpose later though in a more wholesome and practical way. I had become somewhat of a pharisee, when fortunately I began to study Winslow's *Moral Philosophy*, which almost revolutionized my conception of the nature of conscience and left me little on which to stand save an abiding faith in the right and a love and sympathy for my fellow-men which grows stronger with the lapse of years. About the same time I read Mahan's *Natural Theology*, which to my mental understanding seemed to be the most complete and convincing piece of argumentation I had ever seen. I have not changed my mind.

Probably no book has helped me more to the appreciation of good literature than Mathew Arnold's *Essays on Criticism*. In writing at my table I often almost feel his presence urging simplicity of style and clearness of expression. John Ruskin's *Seven Lamps of Architecture* whetted my appetite for better literature as did Carlyle's *Heroes and Hero Worship*.

Homer enlarged and liberalized me, Virgil made me a citizen of the world, Burns a man among my neighbors, Whittier a lover of the institutions of my country.

Among the books that have helped me to go out to my fellow-men and become one of them have been Franklin's *Autobiography*, Plato's *Phaedo*, Arius the Lybian Anonymous, Boniface's *Picciola*, Laboulaye's *Abdalla*, Phelps's *A Singular Life*, Burns' *Cotter's Saturday Night*, Dickens' *Dombey and Son*, DeQuincy's *Confessions of an Opium Eater*, Muloch's *John Halifax*, Hawthorne's *Scarlet Letter*, John Habberton's *All He Knew*, Topelius' *Alchemy*, Hugo's *Les Miserables* and Smiles' *Self-Help*, Muhlbach's *Marie Antoinette* and *Her Son*.

Many of my readers may never have heard of some of these books; others may deem some of them very common-place. I am simply saying that they helped me and I have no hesitation in commending them to people in general.

I have not included in the foregoing list several scores of books of the heavier type treating on historical, philosophical, pedagogical, scientific, ethical, theological, and other themes which have contributed to a development and mental equipment which all professional men find profitable. In addition to treatises on the subjects named, the age in which we live is most prolific in marvelous periodical literature covering almost every conceivable subject of human interest so that everybody can easily find healthful, informational and uplifting reading in unlimited quantity and practically without price.

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Among my lectures and miscellaneous articles many of which have been published, are the following: The Present Status of the Profession in The Transactions of The Kansas Educational Association; The Doctrine of the Human Conscience in The Theological Quarterly; Self-Respect in You and I in Living Thoughts; An elaborate article on Pedagogics in The Students' Cyclopeodia; The Justification of Method; The Spelling Reform Movement; The Development of the Modern College; A brief History of Lincoln University in The Lincolnian; The Semi-Centennial Address to the Alumni of The Kansas State Teachers' College; Will there ever be a Higher Order of Animal than Man?; Benefits of Bible Study; The Essentials of Religion; The Art of Expression; Professional Preparation of the Teacher; Vertical Correlation; Importance of Method in Schools and Colleges; The Objective Point in Education; Methods of Study; Finding the Way to the Pupil's Heart; The Struggle for Life; Some Problems of Life; Stage in which Specialization in Education should Begin printed in the transactions of the Illinois State Teachers' Association; The University and Industrial Education; The Transformation of the Immigrant; What Constitutes Scientific Teaching?; What the Layman Expects of The Physician; The Men and Religion Forward Movement; Aptness to Teach; Report of Sub-Committee on Courses of Bible Study in Preparatory Schools; The Benefits of an Education; Herbart's The Sphere of Sociology; Method in Secondary Schools and Colleges; History of Normal School Work in Kansas; The Test of a Teacher's Efficiency; Educational Means; A Plea for The Graces; Some Wants in Our Public Schools; Tests and Tenures; Does Education Pay?; Authorities and Maxims; The Historical Development of the Modern College; The Tragic Story of the California Missions; The Measure of a Man; Creative Imagination; The Morals of the Heroic Age; The Education that Best Fits for Life; Co-Workers with God; The Meaning of Education; The Attainment of Our Birth-Right as Sons of God; Problems Our Boys and Girls will be called upon to Solve; If I were a Minister; Does Education Pay?; The Place of Art in the Community Life; Address at The Quarter-Centennial Anniversary of the Kansas State Normal School, What shall We Make of the Future?; Address at the Installation of President Joseph H. Hill; Address at the Dedication of the Topeka High School Building; Recitation Estimates; Evolution of the Teacher; Motives and Methods of Using Them; Normal School Extension; Ecclesiastic Fuddleism; Genius a Shield for Character.

As I was opening my eyes in this world Samuel F. B. Morse was perfecting his magneto-electric telegraph which was destined to revolutionize world communication and also to stimulate a century of marvelous discoveries and inventions beyond the wildest dreams of the ages, and yet each decade has been outdoing its predecessors in every sphere of

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human knowledge and human achievement. So familiar are my readers with the amazing accomplishments of man's genius since then that I need not try to elaborate the possibilities of the immediate future. Almost with each succeeding day one or more discoveries are made or inventions reported which continue to contribute to our knowledge, our comfort and our progress. I often wonder how it is possible for this increasing range of human genius and human vision to continue at the present cumulative pace. All this is trite enough and more, but I detour to say that I have followed it up with a most lively interest and a keen appreciation of my ability to understand and enjoy it so fully.

I was born in the midst of our war's alarms, Mexico and the United States being at each other's throats over the annexation of Texas and in scarcely a dozen years the bitter antagonisms then already aflame between the Slave and Free States developed into that frightful war still occasionally showing its hateful head. After four years of awful bloodshed so shocking to my youth, peace was declared and it would seem that the next generation would learn to settle its quarrels in a peaceful way.

Trouble later with some Indian tribes however precipitated local wars, which tho short did not result in much glory to our arms nor to our prestige, for our Indian policy in the main has not done us much honor.

Then came our set-to with Spain as the century was closing and our army and navy as well as our government at Washington came out of the fray recognized as one of the World's great powers, its concessions to the Spanish possessions showing its humanitarian ideals and its peaceful policy towards them.

And yet in less than a score of years we were caught in that bloody maelstrom of European carnage ever to be called the World War, without question unexcelled by any of those awful scourges which swept over the Eastern continents ages ago. But I am however more sanguine than ever of the final triumph of the Prince of Peace in the affairs of the nations of the earth thru the machinery now perfecting in the League of Nations, the World Court, the Spanish-American Alliance and other minor agencies cooperating for I firmly believe in that one great consummation. Toward its final realization the processions of the stars will ever continue to lead us.

From My Files

THE CONCH SHELL

What a beautiful fiction this, that the soft murmur of the conch shell as I put it to my ear, is the tale which the sea long ago poured into its chambers—a tale told to it in whispers and anon with the voice of the mighty tempest, the tumultuous churning of the contending waters, the deafening crash of wild thunders, the blinding sprangles of the livid lightning, the despairing cries of drowning seamen, the pitiful wail of the victims of the deep sea monsters—and yet all now issuing forth again from the labyrinths of the shell as a hushed lullaby, its discords and mad passions all gone, gratefully sweet and soothing. So the struggles and discords of life, the tempests, the disappointments, and shocking tragedies, the bitter sorrows, even the thrilling victories, gradually lose their sharp lines under time's tempering touch, mellowing to a harmony with the key to which each life is set. Few professions are set to a nobler key than ours; few persons in any profession enjoy the consolations of a well-spent life more than the true teacher. The memories of the long gone years, years of conflict, of tension, of anxiety, of lack of appreciation, or self-denial, of sacrifice, of heart-aches, of betrayal of trust, of defeat in cherished plans, return again in the mellow years purified and chastened by the one consuming motive of life, *service*. The pleasures of imagination, however dear to youth, are far less satisfying than the pleasures of a memory thus refined and hallowed.

—From "Among Ourselves."

ALMA MATER

There is no other word in our language that is so full of meaning as the short word, "home." It designates that place whose mere mention arouses more heart throbs than any other in the vocabulary of childhood or manhood. It transforms a box of a house into a charmed habitation where love warms the atmosphere and illuminates every object in it with a glow that gives a hallowed welcome alike to stranger and kindred.

It includes more sympathetic ties, more wholesome impulses, more

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undying attachments, more unselfish service, more lasting impressions than any other place in the universe. It is alike the refuge of saint and sinner, of the man of affairs and the man of leisure, of the prince and the peasant, of the scholar and the novice, of the lonely and the idols of the social circles, of all classes and conditions of men. It is the vital unit of the national life and the watchful conservator of community traditions and ideals.

Without it, one is worse than a man without a country for the finer fibers of his nature slowly if ever, develop and entwine themselves in a wholesome way with his fellow beings as they do in an ideal home.

“There’s a strange something,
Which even fools feel
And e’en wise men can’t explain,
Planted in man to bind him
In dearest ties to that earth
From whence he drew his birth.”

From such a precious spot and such a home, happily fitted for a larger sphere came the young men of long ago into college walls and into larger possibilities. There they found a similar quickening, sympathetic, invigorating atmosphere, satisfying and enkindling that craving for the larger life it was ever unfolding to them, testing their metal day by day and shaping purposes and plans for playing their parts in the great outside world drama. It was such as they, I say, that found no other words in any language so aptly expressing their affection and sense of obligation to their college as those so familiar to everybody now,—Alma Mater. Neither did they discover any more appropriate words for the college buildings and its loved campus than the good old Anglo-Saxon “ham”—home.

Since then college alumni have found no other better word and so have called each other together at the old shrine for reunion and rejuvenation with the rallying “home-coming” cry which has thrilled every loyal son and daughter with a yearning akin to that of the longing for the home of their birth.

A college alumnus without affection for his Alma Mater and without an abiding desire for prosperity and for a renewal of his fellowship with his mates in the old halls, must have lost golden opportunities when in college or have wholly forgotten them in the prosy routine of his self centered career and so lost their reinvigorating effect on his life. Negligence of the old adage, “Preserve well the dreams of thy youth”—has deprived him of its rarest heritages.

ON ACCEPTANCE OF EAST GATEWAY, WILLIAM STREET 1916

I can hardly express my satisfaction at the erection of this, the fourth beautiful gateway in our scheme at the foot of William street

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which is already one of the most attractive avenues in our wide-awake city and from which it makes such a handsome entrance to our woodland campus.

When I proposed this scheme of gateways some years ago, I was at once confronted with the question: Can we depend upon the coming graduating classes to carry out any scheme which will require several years to complete? We decided to risk it and you are seeing the result.

I grant that it is an unusual thing but it was made possible because the scheme appeals to the artistic sense of the continuously unifying life of this college.

There was a day when the people and the board of control of a public institution tolerated different types of architecture for all of its buildings and thus different architects employed had liberty in working out their own individuality in each case often producing incongruous and inexcusably freakish groups an offense to good taste.

Many of you are familiar with examples of this character and appreciate the spirit expressing itself in the charming family of buildings adorning our delightful campus: similar enough to show their kinship, different enough to reveal their individuality, and thus quicken attention and kindle lively appreciation.

These are the things that awaken the finer emotions and call into requisition the genius alike of the poet, the artist and the orator. This is done because they wish it to be done beautifully, eloquently and effectively. Its longing will be satisfied with nothing less hence the princely sums of money it willingly pours into the laps of those who can do it thoroly well.

Art has always found its inspiration in nature. They two have ever been close together, hence landscaping came to lead all the fine arts. This inviting college park is a fine example of their collaboration and these artistic gateways help to heighten its charm and beauty.

But this whole campus with everything that it contains means more to a college man or woman and many times more to a Millikin alumnus than to any one else that passes through these inviting portals for deeper than the harmonious combinations of great forest trees, shapeful banks of shrubbery, variegated masses of fragrant flowers, graceful halls and restful lawns, are hallowed memories of the blessed quadrennium that transformed the rioting ambitions of verdant youth into the well-balanced man of far-reaching vision and conscious power, that gave him purposes and plans for life.

The first courtship was in a garden. It was there that a man and a woman learned to love each other and on through these on-rushing centuries gardens, parks and arboreta have been the trysting place, the rendezvous, the retreat of kindred spirits whether they be lovers, friends, or searchers for truth.

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THE OLD MAN OF THE MOUNTAIN

(Just after one passes the head of the beautiful Profile Lake in the White Mountains, a remarkably clear cut profile of a beardless old man appears, perhaps five hundred feet above on the very apex of a steep, rugged cliff. With solemn visage it overlooks a vast region. It is the Great Stone Face of Hawthorne's story and the Indians are said to have worshiped it in the olden time.)

Old Man of the Mountain,
Pray tell us from what strange race,
What servitude previous,
Or travail sore, sprang thy
Wind battered, storm-beaten face?

Were't thou not born when these were
Born, hid secure within
Their rock-ribbed breasts against the Ice
King's blasts, the lightning's shafts,
The endless roar and crash of swirling
floods and deaf'ning thunders?

What fierce Titanic hands
Tore thy massive shields from off
Thy grim face and left thee naked,
Helpless, nerveless, defenceless,
As Prometheus bound, forever
Attacked—ever defying—never dying?

What is thy mission here,
As mute and deaf and blind, thou
Dost ever face each rising sun
And lost in black night's deep'ning
Gloom, dost wait a coming dawn,—
Perchance an incarnation?

Thou art monarch of all
You survey; from mountain to
Mountain and on to the sea,
There's none thy rule to dispute,—
But who is so loveless,
So lonely, so helpless as thee?

Oh stern visaged watcher,—
Hast thou no message for me?
No word from Eternity's dawn, from
The cycles of years thou hast seen,
The songs of the spheres thou hast heard—*
Alack! Alack! Where art thou old man?
Thou'rt not a wizard! Thou'rt only a phantom
Playing around the top of the mountain!

*At the turn of the road fronting the Profile, it suddenly vanishes and only the rough, irregular rocks are seen.

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THE FLUME, A SNAP SHOT*

The Flume, the Flume!
 Ah! 'tis there! Sure 'tis there!
And has been since the flood,
 Waiting for us to come
And climb its rocky stair
 To learn the way the earth was made.

Thru its portals low,
 Its gladsome waters dance
And toss their swirling arms
 In glee, as we advance
And smile without alarm,—
 For danger lurks not here with them.

It is far above,
 Where pent-up, angry floods
Are dashing and breaking
 Against the frowning rocks,
Which stay their fierce plunging,
 Arousing ever the rumbling thunders.

And farther still, twixt
 Lowering, dripping walls
That shut them in and hurl
 Them back and forth in ghoul-
Ish joy, they writhe and groan
 In confusion wild-indescribable.

Up and on we climb,
 The wild waters, now more free,
Now shunted here, now driv'n there,
 And up and down and everywhere,
In furious leaps that fill the air
 With seething foam and blinding mists.

And thus thru the light,
 Thus thru the night, thus thru
Eternities of years,
 Tumultuous waters
Are ever a'tumbling, ever
 Advancing—receding,—a'pounding.

So this is the home
 Of the Flume! this deep noiseful canon,
This earth-riv'n side of the mountain,—
 Always rent with its passion—
Yet gently twirling its waters
 Dancing and singing out to the Ocean.

*The broken movement is suggested by the character of the ascent. Near The Profile House, White Mountains.

AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF

LAKE LOUISE

Lake Louise, Lake Louise!
Swung 'atween the shifting clouds,
Nestled 'neath Victoria's snows,
Fed from out their melting breasts,—
Queen of Lakes and Lady fair.

Lake Louise, Lake Louise!
Buttressed in walls that shade the sky,
Enfringed, enmossed with green,—serene,—
For fear nor trouble touches thee;
Blessed Lake Louise.

Lake Louise, Lake Louise!
Wafting gently back to me,
As a fragrant summer breeze,
Come mem'ries of a day so rare,
With thee enthralled, Lake Louise.

Lake Louise, Lake Louise!
In thee again I saw the Lord
In visions of his power and word,
And faith anew awoke with joy
Aroused by thee, Lake Louise.

Lake Louise, Lake Louise!
Thou'rt often with me in my dreams;
And fear departs and trouble seems
A wizard's myth, a wisp o' the will;
Dear, restful Lake Louise.

Laggan, Sept. 11, 1913.

A DECEMBER REVERIE

Cold, cold, dead cold!
Shivering wind and icy blast,
Shut up, locked up, sealed up,
Covered over with snow,—
Hoary Winter reigns at last.

Cold, cold, dead cold,
Nature's tolling herself to sleep;
The King of day, far away,
Hears not the Ice King's chuckle,—
Nor his children moaning deep.

Shut up, locked up,
Sleep the timid flocks, wotting not
The glad, wild chimes without
Filling the earth and sky
With the songs the angels brought.

"Life, life, glad life!
And peace for all, the Christ-child brings."
Ice King, Day King, Death King,
All Kings, yield their crowns to him,—
And God is justified.

ALBERT REYNOLDS TAYLOR

A BACCALAUREATE HYMN, 1895

Grant us, O Lord, thy presence now
In all life's winding ways.
Be thou our guide through all our years,
Our friend through all our days.

Thy precepts graven in our hearts,
Thy love's refining power,
In pastures green, by waters still,
Will lead in every hour.

May we, as ends life's fitful dream,
In thy dear arms be found,
Content to know where we did fail,
Thy love and grace abound.

A Few Bouquets In Passing

President A. R. Taylor, Ph.D., for nineteen years president of the Kansas State Normal at Emporia, has resigned that position to take the presidency of the new Millikin University at Decatur, Ill. We congratulate the doctor upon his election to this new field. During these years he has built the Kansas school from a few hundred to about two thousand, has greatly increased its scope and magnified its influence. Through all the political changes in Kansas incident to these years he has maintained his place. This speaks for his ability and discretion. He is one of the best loved men in Kansas, and his name is a household word in many homes where he has never been. The Board of Regents reluctantly accepted his resignation.

His imprint has been on all the school laws, his graduates have been in every city and county, his voice has been everywhere welcome, he has been a noble valued representative of the State in all national educational councils. It is little short of a calamity for a State so circumstanced to lose a man so related to its very life.

If President Taylor is given a free hand in the organization of this new enterprise, we expect to see a school that will be an honor to Illinois and a monument to enlightened and consecrated energy.—A. E. Winship, Editor, in American Journal of Education, Boston.

The resignation of Albert R. Taylor as president of the Kansas State Normal School, which will be handed to the Regents of the institution today will take from Kansas one of its ablest men, and from the work of education in the Missouri Valley one of its strongest, most efficient craftsmen. The loss to the State and to the profession of teaching in Kansas, will be a serious one—one that may not be replaced for years. President Taylor is a man of extraordinary force of character; and he has impressed himself and his ideals on this commonwealth for over half a generation more deeply and more strongly than any other one man. He has been in the very place of all places in Kansas where the opportunity for personal impressions was the strongest—at the head of the teaching force of the common school system of the state. His force for good is inestimable, and the debt which Kansas owes to him may not be reckoned in dollars and cents. To

AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF

his new work, where Kansans regretfully see him going, his host of friends send him with the best wishes in the world and the highest hopes.—William Allen White, Editor, Emporia Gazette.

President Taylor's retirement after 16 years of service as the head of Millikin University is an event which should not pass unnoticed, either by the community or by students and alumni. President Taylor's unique place as the creator of the educational plan of the college, the advisor in the planning of its buildings, the president who assembled the faculty, the administrator who has directed with painstaking care the affairs of the institution through all but two years of its history, and the public-spirited citizen of Decatur, warrants at this time an expression of the recognition and gratitude which the community has accorded him so long in silence.

With an adequate endowment, Millikin may well expect to enter upon a new period of success which will eclipse the past under the new president, but this hope can be entertained only because the foundation has been well laid. No matter who is chosen as the new head of the college, he will find his work easier because President Taylor has blazed the trail for him. President Taylor's efforts in behalf of Millikin have been of the sort money can not buy. The creation of the new college and its development into a strong and worthy educational institution has been the crowning achievement of a lifetime in educational work.

The story of the creation and development of Millikin University under the guidance of President Taylor is one of the most romantic in the history of American colleges. President Taylor had the very rare privilege of becoming president of the college before its birth, thus enjoying the opportunity of having a voice in the planning of its buildings, the designing of the whole educational plan, its organization, the assembling of an entire faculty, and the pleasure of seeing the institution grow from an idea in the mind of the man whose name it was to bear to completely formulated plans, then into a living structure which surpassed all of the original hopes of the founder.

In accordance with the aims of James Millikin, President Taylor designed an institution in which collegiate work would be combined with practical training in vocational subjects. There were at that time few precedents for the recognition of credits in manual training, household arts, and similar subjects in the granting of college degrees. In drafting the Millikin University plan of a group of schools devoted to vocational courses and associated with the required collegiate work, President Taylor was risking much on an educational innovation. Progress in colleges throughout the country since that time, however, has been in the same direction and the wisdom of his plan is amply vindicated.

ALBERT REYNOLDS TAYLOR

As a judge of character in selecting members of his faculty and in relationships with students, President Taylor is regarded by many at his best. Millikin has been fortunate from the first in the possession of many faculty members of unusual calibre for the small college. To him belongs the credit for bringing these men to Decatur in spite of the competition that now exists and the limited financial resources at his command.

In his work as an administrator, he has astonished everyone who has come into contact with him by his extraordinary faculty for details. He knows everything pertaining to the institution entrusted to his charge. Whether it is about the amount of a coal bill for the month preceding, the required courses in any school, the manner in which the lowliest janitor or the highest-paid faculty member performs his duties, he can answer any inquiry put to him. There are few students in the institution he can not recognize by name. Personal interest and attention to every phase of the administration has been the keynote of his work.

Decatur owes acknowledgment to President Taylor not only because of his very large part in building up Millikin University however, but also because he has found time in spite of the claims of his office, to be a good citizen. It has been well said of him that his Decatur did not have its eastern boundary along the line of the St. Louis branch of the Wabash. All community interests have been his interests. It is characteristic of him that he should have been the organizer of the University club, and for three years its president. He came to Decatur with the definite intention of making his home here, and adopted at once the community as his own. Decatur may well rejoice that he will continue to make his home here, and that he will not retire in his function as a loyal and distinguished citizen.

The college year just closed was the 45th that President Taylor had devoted to educational work. His rest is well earned. During the long period of his active life he has had a part in shaping the lives of 25,000 students, thousands of whom have received diplomas from his hands. He has to his credit the accomplishment of building up two great educational institutions, Kansas State Normal at Emporia, and Millikin. Nineteen years of his life were devoted to the Kansas school, which consisted of 400 students and one small building when he took charge of it, and which he left with nearly 2,000 students and a group of magnificent buildings, the great hall of which is named in his honor. As a writer and lecturer on educational topics, he has added further to the lustre of his name. During his travels, from one side of the United States to the other, he has seldom visited in a city of any size in which former students were not present to greet him. The community in which he lives, and which has benefited by his work shares the sentiments of these, who know him best and like them offers congratulations upon nearly a half century of work well done.

Decatur Herald—June 6, 1919—W. F. Hardy, Editor.

A Parting Word

I count it a great privilege to have been permitted to live so long in such a progressive age in the world's history and to take an active part in the widespread educational movement which has contributed so largely to its accomplishments.

In closing this brief review of my life, I am very conscious of having omitted many things which might have been more illuminating and more interesting to my readers than some of those which I have included but I trust that as a whole the story may prove acceptable to those who have so kindly made its publication possible. It has been a labor of love which is its own reward.

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